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RUSSELL FERRETT, Editor.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XII. PITTSBURGH, FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 1, 1875. NO. 99.

FIRST EDITION.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE

Alfonso XII. of Spain.

Isabella's Son Peacefully Proclaimed King.

The President and Cabinet, the Army and the Navy, Acquiesce.

His Majesty in Paris—He Pays a Visit to the Pope and is Ready to Depart for Madrid.

Spain.

ALFONSO PROCLAIMED KING — THE ARMY AND NAVY SUPPORT HIM—HIS WIFE ENTERS THE COUNTRY.

PARIS, December 31.—A dispatch from Madrid, under to-day's date, says that Prince Alfonso, son of ex-Queen Isabella, has been proclaimed King of Spain, and is recognized by all the forces, comprising the armies of the North and Center.

PARIS, December 31.—The Spanish Consul at Bourg Madame has notified the Sub-Prefect of Bayonne, that Donna Blanca, wife of Don Alfonso, has crossed the frontier into Spain, and proceeded toward Seo De Urgel.

SANTANDER, December 31.—The Governor of Santander has resigned. The town is quiet. The navy is favorable to Alfonso. Marshal Serrino has gone to Madrid.

PARIS, December 31.—Additional dispatches from Spain state that Prince Alfonso has been invited to visit the army of the North. The ships in the harbor of Santander have hoisted the royal flags. Marshal Serano acquiesces. The Minister of the Interior has sent the following dispatch to the Governors of Provinces:

"Alfonso XII has been unanimously proclaimed King by the nation, army and ministry. A regency has been formed under the Presidency of Conovas Delcastillo, without a portfolio. We hope your patriotism will induce you to firmly maintain the great interests confided to you."

The Alfonsists consider that Carlism has received its death blow. Ex-Queen Isabella has received the following dispatches:

All the towns have responded enthusiastically to the proclamation.

(Signed) PRIMO DE RIVERA,
Captain General of Madrid.

"We pray your Majesty to transmit the news to your son. We congratulate you on this grand triumph, achieved without bloodshed." This telegram is signed by General Primo De Rivera and Conovas Delcastillo.

Isabella, in response to the dispatch of General Primo De Rivera, sent the following telegram: "The King proceeds to Spain immediately."

Alfonso has telegraphed to the Pope, asking his blessing and promising that he will, like his ancestors, defend the rights of the Holy See.

THE MINISTRY.

King Alfonso's Ministry is announced as follows: Costo, Minister of Foreign Affairs: Cardenas, Justice: Jovellar, War: Salaverua, Finance: Molius, Marine: Robelo, Interior; Orovio, Commerce; Ayala, Colonies. Alfonse did not pass through Paris, but has gone to Spain direct. He will disembark either at Cadiz or Valencia. General Martinez Campos has entered Valencia at the head of the troops that were sent to oppose him when he pronounced for Alfonso. The Carlist leaders Dorregaray, Alvarez, and others have entered Catalonia.

LONDON, January 1.—The *Times'* correspondent at Paris telegraphs that he had an interview with Alfonso, who is in that city. He stated that he was ready to start for Spain, but it was necessary for him to await a dispatch which is expected to-day (Friday.) He had expected news of his proclamation. His mother will remain in Paris. He concluded as follows: "I am not King of a party. My ministry will be composed of men of all shades."

Germany.

MORE OF BISMARCK'S CIRCULAR NOTE.

BERLIN, December 31.—The circular note of Prince Bismarck of May 14, 1872, read in the secret session of the Von Arnim trial, stated that a new Pope, if not recognised by a majority of European sovereigns, would cease to be a Pope, but would stand in the same position as a Bishop appointed without the consent or approval of his government.

France.

DETAILS OF THE ELYSEE CONFERENCE.

PARIS, December 31.—The proposition for the creation of a Senate was the chief subject of discussion at the meeting in the Palace of Elysee yesterday, between representatives of the ministry and those of the various groups in the Assembly. All the deputies declared that it was impossible to separate the Senate bill from the other constitutional laws.

MM. Dufaure and Leon Say insisted that provision be made for the transmission of Marshal MacMahon's powers, even after the termination of the Septennate.

The deputies representing the Right replied that the Septennate was merely personal, whereupon Marshal MacMahon observed that should anything happen to him, the country, being without an organized government, would pass through a terrible crisis.

The Duke d'Audiffret-Pasquier remarked that the question of transmission could be again examined after 1880, when it might be possible to find some ground upon which to compromise. Another meeting will be held Saturday.

The *Journal Des Debats* says that an understanding between the two Centers is possible, but if effected it will be independently of the Right.

Marine News.

SOUTHAMPTON, December 31.—Steamship Hansa, from New York, arrived.

European Markets.

LONDON, December 31, 5 P. M.—Rate for money at Stock Exchange; on Government securities, 6 7-16@5 9-16 per cent. below the Bank of Eng. land rate. Consols for money 94@94⅛; for account 94⅝@94. United States bonds—5-20's, 1865, 107¼; do 1867, 107⅜; 10-40's 104½; new 5's, 105¾. New York Central 92; Erie 25¾; do preferred 42⅝.

FRANKFORT, December 31.—5-20's, 182, 97½.

PARIS, December 31.—Rentes 62 francs 10 centimes.

LIVERPOOL, December 31.—Cotton quiet; middling uplands 7⅝d; Orleans 7⅞d. Sales 10,000 bales, including 1,000 for speculation and export, and 8,500 American. Lard 63. Shoulders —s. Ham 59.

ANTWERP, December 31.—Refined petroleum 29 francs.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 31, 1874.

THE DARIEN EXPEDITION.

The officers of the United States Darien Surveying Expedition arrived in this city yesterday, and immediately proceeded to complete the preparations necessary for the expedition. The party consists of Lieut. Frederick Collins, commanding, Lieut. James G. Eaton, Lieut. J. T. Sullivan, Lieut. L. C. Paine and Ensign L. Seabury. Assistant Surgeon Norfleet and two other officers were yesterday transferred to Commodore Hull's party. They leave on Saturday, in the Acapulco, for Aspinwall, where they join the United States steamer Canandaigua, which will convey the party to the Gulf of Uraba and the Pacific river to Nappi. The Canandaigua will also furnish such men and material as may be required for the prosecution of the survey. The party will return in May.

THE KING MOVES ON.

King Kalakaua and suite left for New Haven this morning.

PACIFIC MAIL INVESTIGATION.

The Pacific Mail investigation was resumed this morning. Rufus Hatch produced a number of letters found on the files of the Pacific Mail Company, embracing two from Irwin dated Washington, and addressed to the Treasurer of the Pacific Mail Company, each acknowledging the receipt of $5,000, and one from Bellows, Vice President, to Irwin, dated San Francisco, desiring Irwin's presence in New York, to give the company all the information possible as to what he did in Washington to obtain an increased subsidy. In a letter dated Washington, March 5th, Irwin writes as follows to Vice President Bellows: "To oblige some of our best and strongest friends, I have promised a berth as freight clerk on the China line to Henry F. Jones, of Massachusetts."

Mr. Bellows, Vice President of the Pacific Mail Company, testified that he never reported to the Executive Committee when the checks for $700,000 were given to Irwin by Stockwell to procure the subsidy; didn't know why the annual report did not show that $100,000 too much had been paid for the building of each of the ships Tokio and Pekin; he thought the annual report would mislead any person not acquainted with the secrets of the company; knew that the entry of $450,000 charged to Harriott & Myer in the books of the company was false, but did not know it at the time; without a friend it out shortly afterward; did not think it was his duty to tell this to the Board of Directors, because he was not asked about it; did not know how much money was spent in Washington for the subsidy; did not know any was spent except in maintaining Irwin's house there. Before the subsidy, the books of the company, under Stockwell, were so kept that any person not in the secret would know nothing about the matter; thought the contract with regard to the subsidy was entirely between Stockwell and Irwin.

PRESIDENT MACHADO'S NEW YEAR RECEPTION.

A Paris special says the *Journal Officiale* announces that at a reception on New Year's day, by President MacMahon, he will be attended by the Marshals and Generals on duty, and also by Monsigneur Guibert, Archbishop of Paris, who will stand beside the President. This is the first time since the reign of Charles X that a prelate of Paris has been so placed, and the fact of the leader of the French Ultramontanes holding the post of honor causes a great sensation. Marshal MacMahon thus inflicts indirectly a slight on the prerogative of the National Assembly, although he possibly never intended to do so.

THE DOCTOR EXONERATED.

Dr. Charles Dimsar, arrested on suspicion of having caused the death of the child of Kate Etsell, has been exonerated by the coroner's jury.

VICKSBURG.

Congressional Investigation—Testimony of Mayor Olefy.

VICKSBURG, December 31.—The Congressional Investigating committee arrived yesterday, and met to-day in the Court House, the full Committee being present, with Chairman Conger in the chair. A number of prominent citizens of the city were in attendance.

Mayor Olefy was the first witness examined, who stated that the police force of the city was not increased until after the fight of December 7th, and that his proclamation issued on that day, and heretofore sent in these dispatches, was published at eight A. M. In reply to a question by Mr. Conger, he said the proclamation was issued because the one issued by Governor Ames was unfair, and calculated to incite the people. On Sunday, the sixth of December, Crosby, the colored Sheriff, came to him and told him the colored people in the country were very much excited about his being put out of the office, and asked him to assist him in preserving the peace, which he promised to do. About three o'clock next morning, Dr. Shannon and two other gentlemen came to his house, woke him up, and told him armed bodies of negroes were marching on the city. He told Shannon to have the court house and fire bells rung so as to arouse the people, though he had heard so many such rumors that he thought little of them. But about eight o'clock Dr. Hunt came to him and reported that three or four hundred armed negroes were marching on the city by the Grove street road. He then issued his proclamation ordering them to disperse and retire to their homes, and sent policemen Welsh and Hays to meet the negroes and read his proclamation to them. They had white handkerchiefs on sticks. They returned about 9:30, and reported that the negroes had fired on them and would not allow them to approach.

By Mr. Conger—Were they both sent on the same road?

Answer—The negroes were reported approaching on the Baldwin's Ferry and Hall's Ferry roads. Welsh went on the former and Hays on the latter. They had the proclamation printed on posters.

By Mr. Conger—Did they make an official report?

Answer—I did not see them till the afternoon, when Welsh reported that they had fired on him; also that the negroes seemed to be fighting among themselves, and were in confusion.

After issuing the proclamation the Mayor rode around the town, cautioning people who had arms to repair to the court house. The company which had gone out on the Jackson road returned, reporting that they had a fight and killed fifteen or twenty negroes, but afterward the Mayor learned that not that many were killed. He then sent Hurlbut with a scout on the Warrenton road, and fearing an outbreak in town, returned and told the police not to leave their beats. The Warrenton road scouts returned and reported no enemy, but about the same time a report was received of fighting on the Jackson road, and that the negroes were routed, with twenty-five or thirty killed. These reports were not official. While at the court house, Peter Crosby, the colored Sheriff, was brought there under arrest, by order of Col. Miller, in command of the citizens. He was kept there until everything had become quiet and then sent to Jackson. The third fight occurred on the Jackson road, near Pemberton monument, and lasted half an hour, but was principally at long range. This was the hardest fight of the day. Heard that thirty or forty negroes had been killed, and one white man (Brown) and another wounded. This was the last fight, and occurred between nine and ten. Brown, the white man killed, was coming into town from the country and did not belong to our forces.

By Mr. Conger—Were any persons killed in the city that day?

Answer—No, sir!

Heard that a colored man had been shot in the jaw who refused to leave the street when ordered. Heard that, early in the morning, five negroes took a gun from a man on the street, but did not see it. Mr. Grenelia saw it.

By Mr. Conger—What time was the second proclamation issued?

Answer—About noon, after the fighting was over.

Were these fights in the city limits?

Answer—This first one, on Grove street, was just at the corporation line, while the one at Pemberton monument was half a mile outside.

Did you make any disposition of the bodies of the killed?

Answer—They were outside the city limits, but I went to the Newton county Treasurer to have them buried. He said if I would sign a paper to the county undertaker he would, which I did.

Did you feel you had any more right to kill them outside the city limits than to bury them?

Answer—My instructions to Col. Miller were, to defend the city; did not tell him where to go.

Cross-examined by Mr. Conger—Could not tell how many were buried; could ascertain, from the official books of the undertakers; had heard of none left unburied; had heard of no colored men being killed since that day, except one named Mack, killed near Hayne's Bluff, twelve miles distant, where a funeral procession was fired into and Vaughn, a white man, was killed. Did not call upon any of the county officers to aid him in maintaining the peace, because he believed they were interested with the negroes in the movement. When he first saw Crosby that day, he was under arrest; had no conversation with him or any of his deputies in regard to preserving the peace. Crosby was offered his liberty, but suggested to him that he was safer in jail than in the court house; but he was not taken there till the afternoon of the next day. He remained there till the following week, when he was taken on and sent to Jackson. Had nothing to do with putting him in jail; thought we had no right to restrain him had heard that seven negroes were killed in the Grove street fight, thirty on the Jackson road and about twelve or fifteen on the Cherry street road.

To General Hurlbut—Col. Miller's command was of armed citizens, without any regular organization. Capt. Cowan officiated as an officer. I was down on the levee when the bells rung. Col. Miller acted under orders from me, but I was not present when the command started out. They were called out on the spur of the moment and variously armed, some on horseback, but mostly on foot. Col. Baird had no regiment. The armed citizens were from Vicksburg. About 160 came from Louisiana next day, but had no part in the fighting. Col. Baird was appointed by the Taxpayers' League to take charge of Crosby, which he did. Col. Miller and men were adopted as part of the police force.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

Double Murder in Missouri.

ST. LOUIS, December 31.—Two men named Fuller and Clemens, living in Fredericksburg, Bay county, Mo., quereled last Saturday about some whiskey and Clemens shot Fuller with a double barrelled shot gun, putting the contents of both barrels into him. Fuller, although blown to pieces, plunged a knife into Clemens, almost disemboweling him. Both men died.

Honorably Discharged.

ST. LOUIS, December 31.—Conrad Rich, his son, and Jerry Mahoney have been on trial in Kansas City several days past, for the murder of Wm. Strode and Henry Barnett, who were found dead on the railroad track near that City, about two weeks ago, were honorably discharged yesterday.

Suspicion of Murder in Chicago.

CHICAGO, December 31.—Late last night Mrs. Nolan, living at 63 Main street, found dead in bed with a knife with the left side, sufficient to have paid death, and a slight cut on the left ear two little children were in the house are too young to give any account of mother's death. Her husband wasn't, but was found about two o'clock morning and arrested. He says he died about nine o'clock, that he for help and afterward got drunk and to return. He professes to know about his wife's wounds.

Hon. Henry N. Walker has sold his in the Detroit *Free Press* to Williamson, and retires from the paper. Mr. by, who has been managing editor *Free Press* for the past ten years, ikes entire charge of its editorial column

LUXURY, Health, Economy in by using Dooley's Yeast Powder. ant Light Rolls, Biscuits, &c., prepar ten minutes. Try it.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

COLORADO POLITICS.

Governor McCook and Delegate Chaffee in Conflict.

The Matter of Government Appointments in Controversy.

REPORT OF THE CONGRESSIONAL PRINTER.

Reuter's Agent and the President's Message.

How the Cuban Story was Cabled to Europe by Mistake.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 31, 1874.

Report of the Congressional Printer.

The report of the Congressional Printer has been completed. The report shows a very satisfactory and economical management of the office. In the expenses there has been a reduction of about thirty-five thousand dollars as compared with the estimates. The publication of the *Congressional Record*, which was transferred to the Government Printing office in 1873, is shown to costless than when done by private contract

Colrado Politics.

The contest last winter between Governor McCook and Delegate Chaffee, of Colorado, has been renewed with additional vigor. McCook wishes, principally, the removal of two of the Justices of the Supreme Court and the United States Marshal of Colorado, which Chaffee opposes. H. CAlleman, of Pennsylvania, United States Attorney for the Territory, arrived here this morning in order to communicate the important information bearing on the subject. The indications are that Governor McCook will succeed in securing disappointment of persons of his own suggesth.

The outer Agency Blunder.

The dispch cabled by the New York agent of Reer's telegrams, claiming to be from the President's message, having created considerable feeling among the press of England and the Continent, it may be stated that the European version was entirely unwranted by the material afforded for its preparation. At the last Cabinet meeting preceding the meeting of Congress, the completed message was read, after which time no alterations whatever were made. The day before Congress met the agents of the General Press Asiation, called and, after a time, were gived audience. In a conversational way the President recounted from memorye leading features of the document. Was asked: "Will there be any special prence to Spanish affairs?" The reply was "Yes, perhaps more definite than heofore." Upon this the version prepareby the Associated Press agent was bui. Reuter's agent, however, assumed a responsibility for converting this corsational and speculative construction of that portion of the message into the tongue of the President himself, by empling the first person. This explains the difference between the first version and the real message, as complained of in s foreign press. The President, when attention was called to the statement lished in the London *Times*, was greatly founded. The abstracts prepared here were not objectionable. The Reuter agent responsible for what occurred subsequer.

WASHTON, D. C., December 31, 1874.

ELECTIONS ON THE INDIANS.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs has issued a circ letter to superintendents and agent the Indian Department, instructing them to notify the several bands or tribe Indians under their supervision, that they must confine themselves wholly within the limits of their respective reservations and that under no pretext must they leave without a special permit in writ from the agent or superintendent.

THE WEATHER.

Monthly Bulletin.

WAR DEPARTMENT, SIGNAL SERVICE, U. S. A., SIGNAL OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D. C., December 31, 1874.

To Following the Daily and Monthly Mean of Barometer and Temperature, and Relative Hidity of the Atmosphere, with the Prevag Direction of Wind and Amount of Rfall, for the month of December, 1874:

ate.	Daily Mean Bar.	Daily Mean Tem.	Daily Mean Hum.	Prev'g Wind	Daily Amt. fall.
ember 1.	30.214	35.2	75.7	S.	.09
ember 2.	30.089	51.2	66.2	S. W.	.....
ember 3.	30.104	43.2	80.0	S. W.	.....
ember 4.	30.420	34.0	73.2	N.	.....
ember 5.	30.527	42.0	80.0	S. W.	.01
ember 6.	29.953	43.2	85.0	S. W.	.42
ember 7.	29.892	35.5	87.0	N. W.	.10
ember 8.	30.177	28.4	70.0	W.	.05
ember 9.	30.062	26.0	70.5	W.	.....
ember 10.	30.253	31.0	81.5	W.	.05
ember 11.	30.305	29.0	82.0	W.	.....
ember 12.	30.230	29.5	78.0	N. W.	.....
ember 13.	29.972	42.5	86.0	S. W.	.45
ember 14.	30.201	26.5	72.5	N.	.14
ember 15.	30.269	24.0	68.5	S. W.	.....
ember 16.	30.080	35.5	84.0	E.	.01
ember 17.	30.054	36.5	81.0	W.	.04
ember 18.	30.084	31.7	71.0	W.	.....
ember 19.	30.115	34.5	80.0	W.	.....
ember 20.	29.869	35.0	82.0	N.	.20
ember 21.	30.088	31.7	76.0	S. W.	.....
ember 22.	29.822	36.7	75.2	S. W.	.03
ember 23.	29.900	36.5	71.5	S. W.	.....
ember 24.	30.098	31.7	71.5	W.	.....
ember 25.	30.200	29.2	65.0	S.	.....
ember 26.	30.019	36.0	80.0	S. W.	.....
ember 27.	29.987	48.5	87.0	S.	.01
ember 28.	29.836	54.7	92.2	W.	1.45
ember 29.	29.874	28.2	72.0	N. W.	.....
ember 30.	30.078	29.2	74.2	N. W.	.....
ember 31.	30.285	18.2	68.2	S. E.	.....
ans.....	30.144	35.2	76.0	W.	3.30

Pittsburgh, December 31st, 1874.

GEORGE H. BOOM, Sergeant Signal Service, U. S. A.

Meteorological Summary—Comparative Statement—1873 and 1874.

	1873	1874
Highest Barometer	30.60	30.69
Lowest Barometer	29.00	28.96
Mean	29.80	29.82
Highest	30.60	30.69
Lowest	29.00	28.96
Range	1.60	1.73
Mean	29.80	29.82
Highest	98	92
Lowest	1	7
Range	97	85
Mean	52.37	53.37
Prevailing Direction	N. W.	W.
Highest Velocity	36	36
Total No. of Miles	10,722	10,722
No. of Rainy Days	120	120
Total Rainfall	3.30	3.30
Highest	0.70	0.70
Lowest	0.01	0.01
Mean	0.11	0.11
Annual Range	3.29	3.29

— BAROMETER. — THERMOMETER. — WIND. — RAIN FALL. — RIVER.

GEORGE H. BOOM, Sergeant Signal Service, U. S. A.

CASUALTIES.

Body of an Unknown Woman Found in the Ohio.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

STEUBENVILLE, O., December 31, 1874.

The body of an unknown woman was found in the river at New Cumberland, W. Va., yesterday, and was interred at that place. The body was much decomposed, and had evidently been in the water a long time.

A conference was held in Wheeling on Tuesday evening, between the manufacturers and nailers, as to the feeling regarding a reduction of the price of cutting. The proposition will be acted on and the result announced in a few days. The meeting was very harmonious.

A Reward is Offered

for a flour that will make as much or as good bread as the great White River, for the price.

NEW ORLEANS.

Arrival of General Sheridan—The Congressional Committee at Work—Testimony of the Commander of the White League.

NEW ORLEANS, December 31.—General Sheridan and staff arrived last night.

At 11:15 the Congressional Committee reassembled in the room of the United States Circuit Court, a large number of spectators being present. The first witness called was General F. N. Ogden, who said: "I am commanding officer of the White League in this city. The object and purposes of the White League are clearly defined in their Constitution." [The Constitution was here submitted and read.] "Our organization is simply for defensive purposes. The condition of affairs in Louisiana called for such an organization. It was established in July, 1874. We called it the White League, because we could only rely upon white people, in our condition. With political offices we have nothing to do. In the city of New Orleans our roll will call from 2,500 to 2,800 men. I have organized out of these two regiments of infantry and one of artillery. We have officers for these regiments. Governor Penn authorized me to organize a militia, when he was acting Governor. I was under Governor Penn's orders on the 14th of September. Some of the organizations now are armed. I can't say how many, as I have not received my reports. We have no artillery, only what we made ourselves for the 14th of September. Some of the arms captured on the 14th of September were captured by parties outside my command. Those immediately under my command took none of the captured guns. Some of the outside parties who took guns have since reported, and claim to be members of the White League. I don't know the strength of the League in the parishes. Immediately on the organization of the League is assumed a military character. We had no armory. The guns had by members of the Crescent City White League were obtained by themselves. We have had very irregular meetings since the 14th of September. We have other companies who, I see, meet often. I have issued no orders since the 14th of September regarding drill. Officers of companies attend to that. Sometimes prevented drill. We have no armories that I know of. The League have not met lately for discussion. The last meeting was about two weeks ago. I then called a meeting of the present City White League Club. The meeting was to get funds to pay the expenses of a procession held after the election. We also passed resolutions of non-interference with the Returning Club. This club was really only a club of the League organization. Our club has taken no political part since the 14th of September. We passed no resolution inuting to any member to discharge a negro who voted the Republican ticket. We had no pledge that anybody should vote any particular ticket. Before the election I summoned my staff and a few other gentlemen to take steps to police the city. On the 2d of November I divided my command into three divisions, one under command of Col. Behan, another under Col. Glynn, and a third under Major Blank. They were to place fifteen men near each poll to prevent disturbances. I did this because I was told measures would be taken to create a quarrel. The Leagues in the State are not under my command, though I believe they would obey me if I issued orders. There is no central or federal organization. I believe the League existed in one of the northern parishes of the State before New Orleans. I don't know that any Republican is a member of our club. A gentleman who was in the Federal army fell with us on the 14th of September. New Orleans is not as prosperous in business as heretofore. The decline of prosperity in New Orleans is owing to our Administration's policy. Our trade with Texas has been taken away by St. Louis. Don't know whether the loss of our Texas trade is the cause of the decline. My attention was first informed that many colored men voted the Conservative ticket at the election. Many colored men came to me for protection from Republicans after the election, and I gave it to them. I put out men on election day to prevent disturbances, but anything of the kind would be construed into intimidation. The organization grew out of the condition of affairs. The people were in terror of the Metropolitan Police, who committed outrages and were sent out into parishes to execute the orders of the Returning Board. The Metropolitan Brigade were all armed. They turned out on the streets and drilled with arms. There was a Black League, but I never saw it. On the 14th of September we were out on the streets to get the arms belonging to us that were on board a ship. The police were on the levee, and as we were going to get them they were withdrawn at the advance of the police. Then I formed my line of battle. The White League was not an organization for the purpose of helping the Democratic party. We helped the parties in preserving peace. The meeting held that day demanded the abdication of the government. I was acting in concert with the people. I was not present at the organization on the morning of the 14th, was to get these arms. The League did not know my purposes. I acted not with the Committee of Seventy, but with the Committee of Citizens. My purpose that morning was not a peaceful one. We surrendered the State House to Colonel Haring Penn's Governorship the city was perfectly quiet. Politics are pretty much divided on the color line. We made efforts to gain over some of the colored vote, but used no intimidation. If the Federal Government had not interfered we would have had perfect quiet here. During the few days of Governor Kellogg's occupancy of the office it would have been prudent for a man to express sympathy with the Kellogg government, on account or the excitement."

General Sheridan asked, on the conclusion of his evidence, to furnish the names of the negro men who called on him for protection, which he did.

James Lynch, colored, late City Administrator, testified that he was acquainted with the condition of the colored people. Politically they are Republicans don't think you can find two out of a hundred who are Democrats. More voted the Democratic ticket this election than before. Several reasons are assigned as the cause of the change in that vote, but I believe the principal one is that they were afraid of losing their situations. There was no secret organization among the colored people knew of no reason why the whites should have feared negro violence; never saw colored men drilling who did not belong to the militia. There are only about half a dozen Democratic negroes in the Third ward; there were about fifteen in the procession from the Seventh ward. Colored Democratic clubs existed on paper, not in reality; do not think there was a Democratic club consisting of fifteen men in the city at any time; think about 1,800 voted the Conservative ticket. Knew them, told me they voted the Republican ticket wrapped up in a Conservative ticket for fear of being detected; believed some few of them were rewarded by appointments. It is said that there were many whites, who, if they had been allowed to exercise their political views, would have voted the Republican ticket. There were signals of citizens at every poll, which intimidated them.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-Day—For the Middle States, cold and generally clear weather, variable winds shifting to easterly and southerly and slowly falling barometer, followed by cloudy weather and rising temperature. For the Lake Region and the Ohio Valley, increasing cloudiness, with easterly or southerly winds, a slight rise of temperature and falling barometer.

The Duke of Montrose, Scotland, is dead.

The Connecticut Republican Convention is to be called for January 20th.

Kalakaua arrived in New Haven yesterday, and was welcomed at a collation in the City Hall.

The mercury, at points in New Hampshire, Wednesday night, fell to thirty degrees below zero.

Sixty thousand colliers in South Wales have struck work in consequence of a reduction of wages.

Alexandre Auguste Ledrue-Rollin, the French jurist and politician, died yesterday, in his sixty-seventh year.

Very rich gold mines have been discovered in Sonora, on the San Miguel river, California. The claims cover a surface two miles square.

Owing to recent fires in Havana, foreign insurance companies have raised their premiums about forty per cent, and adopted uniform rates of premium.

The Sacramento *Union* has been bought by Paul Morrill, one of its proprietors, for sixty-five thousand dollars. The management will remain as heretofore.

Since the famine set in in Asia Minor, fifty thousand persons have migrated from various parts of the country to the city of Adana, half of whom since succumbed to disease.

Jacob Neiswander, whose supposed murder and cremation has of late inspired sundry telegrams from Columbus, returned to his home yesterday alive and healthy. He says family troubles drove him away.

It is believed that a majority of the members of the new Legislature of Wisconsin are in favor of repealing the Potter railroad law. The desperate financial condition of the smaller railroads and the general stagnation in business will, it is said, effect the repeal.

The *Mineral Journal* says the quantity of coal shipped by rail last week was 67,627 tons, against 88,206 tons for the corresponding week last year, decrease, 20,570 tons. The supply sent from all the regions for the week was 275,564 tons anthracite, and 18,318 bituminous; for the week, 292,682 tons, against 322,822 for the corresponding week last year; decrease, 30,240 tons. The whole supply sent from all the regions so far this year embraced in our table is 21,355,108 tons, against 25,101,119 tons last year, a decrease of 836,411 tons. The decrease in anthracite is 921,258 tons.

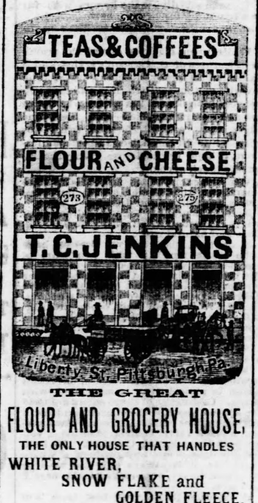
MESSRS. FAIRBANKS, of St. Johnsbury, Vt., have been awarded the contract for supplying the postoffices of the United States with scales, in order to meet the requirements of the newspaper law, which goes into operation to-day. This company already have the contract for supplying the postoffices with their usual scales, but the amended postal law requires much larger scales than the common letter balance in most of the postoffices. Of the seven parties who bid, the Messrs. Fairbanks were the only firm that could furnish all the scales at the specified time. As the contract calls for about 3,000 scales, of modifications ranging from four pounds to one ton, the extent of the work can be faintly imagined. The award of so large a contract—said to be the largest of the kind ever made—to the Fairbanks' Scale Company, is the strongest kind of evidence of the excellent character of the Fairbanks scales and of the great capacity of the works.—*American Manufacturer.*

Use Non-Explosive Oil.

Sold by T. C. Jenkins, Checkered Front. Every dealer should have it.

Look Out for Dealers

that represent they have White River Flour under other brands. This is often done to make sales.



THE GREAT

FLOUR AND GROCERY HOUSE.

THE ONLY HOUSE THAT HANDLES

WHITE RIVER,
SNOW FLAKE and
GOLDEN FLEECE.

HEADQUARTERS FOR

GOSHEN CHEESE,
N. O. MOLASSES and
ROAST COFFEES.

NO CHARGES FOR DRAYAGE.

Advertisements on this page, under the several heads of WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR RENT, *&c., will be inserted at transient rates only*—TEN CENTS *per line for each insertion. No advertisement less than* FIFTY CENTS.

WANTED.

WANTED—SALESMAN—A FIRST class Hardware Salesman with an established trade. NEWLIN & YARDLEY, Philadelphia.

WANTED—EVERY SPORTSMAN—To call or send for a price list of Rifles, Shot Guns, Rifle Pipes, Ammunition, &c. Address J. H. JOHNSTON, Great Western Gun Works, 258 Liberty street, Pittsburgh.

WANTED—BY AN ACTIVE MAN OF ten years' business experience, a chance to travel for some Manufactory or Wholesale House, who will himself profit by his work. Not afraid of work. Address "NAUSER," this office.

WANTED—MODELS — INVENTORS and others wanting Patent Office Models or Experimental Machinery made, will find at 81 Kenyon Pattern and Model Works, of J. F. MILLER & CO., 68 Water street and 80 First avenue.

WANTED — PROPOSALS — FOR Building two three-story Brick Dwelling Houses, the building to take two Building Lots in Thirty-second Ward as part pay on contract of building. For further particulars apply to G. W. RANKIN, Real Estate Agent, 104 Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

FOR RENT.

FOR RENT—ROOMS—NICELY FURnished Rooms, with or without Board. Apply at No. 60 Ross street.

FOR RENT—ROOM—LARGE WELL furnished Second Room, 41 60 feet, with good entrance, located on Smithfield street. The party holding it has a three year lease. For particulars address Box A. E., Commercial office.

FOR RENT—55 MARKET STREET—For rent, the handsome Iron Front Building, 55 Market street, adjoining Wilson's Hotel. Suits well without a large Warehouse in rear. Inquire of HOLMES & SONS, or of JOHN WAY, 78 Sewickley, Pa.

FOR RENT—NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE Office on first floor, with fire-proof vault. Suitable for Banking House, Insurance or other office; well lighted and heated; Washington Hall Block. Inquire at Mechanics' and Manufacturers' National Bank.

FOR RENT—A HANDSOME BRICK Dwelling House, on Cliff street, Parlors, Dining Room and Kitchen on first floor; Gas, Hot Water; 3 Bedrooms and finished Attic. Water and modern improvements. The Lot extends from street to street. Will be rented reasonable. Possession given immediately. For particulars apply to WM. EAGAN, Commercial Office.

FOR RENT OR SALE—NEW TWO-STORY Frame House, with Bay Window, containing 6 Rooms, Vestibule and Hall; Cellar, Kitchen; Lot 45x200, with Grapevines, &c., located on Grandview Avenue, Mount Washington, Thirty-fifth ward, commanding the finest view in the city. Rent moderate to a good tenant. For particulars, apply to E. ABEL, Commercial Counting Room.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—700 POUNDS MINION TYPE, nearly new. Will be sold at a bargain. Apply at this office.

FOR SALE—OAK TANNED LEATHER Belting and No. 1 "City Finish" Harness Leather at THORP & DUNN'S, 11 Market street.

FOR SALE—BELTING AND HOSE—Rubber Belting and Steam Packing and Hose, at HARTLEY, MCKEE & CO.'S, 58 Smithfield street.

FOR SALE—PLANING MILL MACHINERY—Price, Planer, Matcher, Moulder, Mortising machine, Tenoning machine, Circular Saw Mill, and pulleys, &c. M. B. COCHRAN & CO., 121 Liberty street.

FOR SALE—BELTING AND HOSE—Of Leather and Gum Belting, Copper Rivets, Gum Packing and Hose, at lowest prices. All goods warranted. HARTLEY, MCKEE & CO., 58 Smithfield street.

FOR SALE—ENGINES AND BOILERS —New and Second-hand, of all sizes, Stationary and Portable, from 2 to 60-horse power, now on hand. HILL, CLARK & CO., corner Marion avenue and P., Ft. W. and C. R. R., Allegheny, Pa.

FOR SALE—THREE NEW DOUBLE-FLUE Boilers, 20x36; twelve Portable Boilers, from 10 to 30 horse power; Engines from 8 to 80 horse power; one Hoisting Engine and Boiler. ANDERSON, CAXWELL & PORTER, 49 Park Way, Allegheny.

FOR SALE—PATENT REPORTS—A set of 61 Volumes, containing a complete list of Patents from the organization of the Government in 1790 to July 1, 1874. Price, $120. If preferred, $30 may be sent with the order, and the balance collected when the books are received by express, C. O. D. Address G. & C., this office.

FOR SALE — FORTY SUPERIOR Second-hand Boilers, in good order, ranging from 30 inches to 44 inches in diameter, and 10 feet to 30 feet long; double-lined and cylinder. County inspector's certificate of test with each boiler. Repairing done promptly at the West Penn Boiler Works, No. 12 Water street. WATSON & MINOR.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE FOR good city or country property, a number of valuable and well located Lots near South Chicago, and in close proximity to the Calumet River and different lines of Railroad. Those Lots are dry. The Calumet region is destined to be at an early day the manufacturing and commercial point of Chicago. For particulars apply to F. C. KEYS, 96 Fourth avenue, or FLAGG, DURANT & CO., 104 Fourth avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

FOR SALE—A SPLENDID FARM OF 128 Acres, two miles of Bush Station, Roger county: 28 Acres in fine Timber; new Frame House of 6 Rooms; large new Barn; first-class Orchard, 300 trees; mainly used; suits for Dairy Stock or Grazing well watered; Coal under it. Price $

The Commercial.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1875.

A HAPPY New Year for all our friends and patrons, in all the best gifts and graces of life! No paper will be issued from this office to-morrow.

HOCKING coal is now selling at retail, in Columbus, Ohio, at seven cents a bushel, the result of sharp competition. The consumers of coal in Pittsburgh would be glad of any fight among the coal dealers that would produce a similar result, here.

THE arrivals of foreign vessels at Philadelphia during the past year, up to the 30th of December, numbered 1,119, against 1,167 for the entire year 1873. The number of coastwise vessels arrived was 9,148 last year, against 9,567 for the year before.

THE Lake Shore and Michigan Southern road has declared a dividend, payable February 1st, of three and one-quarter per cent. on the earnings of the last six months. If the road has really earned this dividend, the fact is a hopeful sign of returning prosperity.

THE nature of General SHERIDAN'S mission down South appears to be of a somewhat similar character to that of General GRANT'S eight or nine years ago: the chief point of difference being that while the latter was instructed to discover why there was not prosperity in the South, the object of the former is to ascertain why there is not peace.

THE Reading *Times* says that a Democrat who was in attendance at the Berks county Democratic convention last Saturday, is authority for the statement that a resolution instructing the members of the Legislature from that county to vote for Hon. HIESTER CLYMER for the United States Senate, "first, last and all the time," was withdrawn because of the fear of an apprehended disinclination on the part of the convention to indorse the instructions.

THE expenditures of the State of Illinois for the biennial period of 1873 and 1874, were, in round numbers, $11,000,000, of which sum $2,000,000 was for county bond indebtedness, leaving the total $9,000,000, or $4,500,000 for each year. The annual interest on the bonded debt of New York city is $9,300,000, so that it costs twice as much to pay the interest on its debt alone, as it does to govern the entire State of Illinois. New York is Democratic: Illinois is not.

CARELESSNESS in proof-reading made us say, lately, that there were twenty-five *millions* of barrels of refined oil lying upon the wharves at Baltimore, instead of twenty-five *thousand* barrels. The error was a provoking one; and as the magnitude of the figures is giving the erroneous paragraph a general circulation, we hasten to correct it. We should have done so, before, had we not thought that the proper correction would naturally suggest itself to every reader.

THE city of Buffalo is carnivorous as well as granivorous. The receipts of cattle at that point during the year just closed largely exceeded those of any preceding year on record, the total by all the lines being about 460,000 head, against 409,738 head last year, and 379,086 in 1872. Buffalo is rapidly becoming one of the most important livestock markets in the country, and we are glad to note that this branch of its general trade is in such a satisfactory and healthy condition.

NEW YORK'S "Compulsory Educational Act" goes into effect to-day. The more widely education is disseminated among all classes, the better, of course, for the country in general; still, we have little faith in the compulsory method. At least it would seem more philosophic for the Empire State first to provide proper school accommodations for the pupils which already throng her overpacked schoolrooms, before undertaking to solve the remainder of the educational problem.

THE increase of deposits in the Savings Institutions of Massachusetts, last year, as compared with the previous year, indicates a gratifying condition of prosperity among the people of that State. There has been a gain over 1873 of 34,833 in the number of depositors, and a gain in deposits of $11,359,566. The latter is some $4,000,000 less than was obtained in 1873 over the previous year, but when the dullness of the times is taken into consideration, the indications are certainly favorable.

OUT in Wisconsin, the other day, one "Prince" RINDSKOPF, convicted of conspiracy to defraud the revenue, was sentenced to pay a fine of five thousand dollars and to imprisonment for one day. Now "Prince" was an honored chief among the "Reformers" of that State, and his ringing denunciations of the Republican party during the late Congressional campaign—for "Prince" was a "Reform" candidate for a seat in the national Legislature—were among the most memorable features of the canvass. Selah.

ONE way to retrench is by defrauding the revenue, and there is no doubt that this particular method of economization has been very extensively practised by importers of late, especially along the Canadian frontier. This plan, however, will, in future, be found difficult of execution, thereafter all imported goods in bond and to be transported by United States agents, and all bonded cars will be loaded, locked and sealed in the presence and under the supervision of the United States officials. This will result in a marked decrease of smuggling.

THE Louisville *Courier-Journal*, the New York *World*, and other leading Democratic papers, have all remonstrated earnestly with the Missouri Democrats for throwing CARL SCHURZ over. These papers see that the Democratic party cannot afford to drive off the element represented by Mr. SCHURZ, and they are frightened at the prospect of losing it; but the Democracy of Missouri doesn't care a snuff for such remonstrances. They have got the power in their hands to elect a Bourbon to the United States Senate, and they are going to do it, regardless of consequences.

AN INTERNATIONAL Congress is proposed for the consideration of measures to remedy the ever-increasing devastation of forests. It is held that such an international effort has become necessary, especially for the preservation of forests at the sources of great water courses, inasmuch as their unlimited destruction brings about fluctuations of water levels very injurious to commerce and industry, filling the canals with sand, weakening the banks, throwing the cultivated fields, and occasioning injuries affecting not only a single country, but also other countries. It is truly an important question.

THE [illegible] counter[illegible]cratic State officers of Virginia [illegible] gress by Democratic candidate for Con[illegible] can counting the vote of a Republi[illegible] Democratic count of informality. The [illegible] the same thi[illegible] officers of Wisconsin did [illegible] two Republica[illegible] excluding the votes of [illegible] And having th[illegible]nships, for informality, [illegible] into Congress, the[illegible] tied two of their men [illegible] go to we[illegible] because Democrats now want to [illegible] Louisiana has follo[illegible]turning Board of [illegible] ample! Circumstan[illegible] Democratic ex[illegible] all right, so [illegible] as it ter cases. It was [illegible] the Democrats; but wi[illegible]ed in favor of [illegible] them, it is all wrong. [illegible] works against [illegible]

THE Democratic papers [illegible] have undertaken too big a [illegible] country are trying to run both parties [illegible]ct. They will efforts to manage the [illegible] in their party to suit their own purpose[illegible]publican permitting their own party to [illegible] dry are from its moorings. Let them [illegible]away clumsily to their own organizati[illegible] exwill give them enough to do. The Re[illegible] lican party is abundantly able to take [illegible] of its own concerns, and will do it mu[illegible] better than the Democrats can do it fo[illegible] them. From present appearances, the Democrats will soon find their own troubles sufficiently great to absorb their entire attention.

WHY is it that men who engage in new political enterprises resort to bombast as their first weapon? The platform of a "Retrenchment and Reform" club formed in one of our city wards, and published yesterday, is an illustration in point. The object of this organization, to secure the election of Councilmen who will retrench the expenses of the city, cut off unnecessary municipal enterprises, and establish honesty as the rule in managing city affairs, is a good one; but surely it could have been expressed in plain, simple words and without lugging in all the adjectives, metaphors and tropes the language is capable of. What do they mean, for instance, in demanding that their candidates shall "set their faces against the carcases of fraud and corruption?" Either the avenues must be very small, or the faces of the candidates in the Seventeenth ward must be excessively large if they are big enough to close up such openings. We have witnessed a great deal of cheek in candidates, in our time, but we have never come across enough in one ward for the successful enforcement of such a contract. As the avenues of fraud will never be closed by merely setting faces against them; but as the chosen favorites of these word-mongers will also be required to "sweep away everlastingly the leeches that swarm in our public places," as well as to "lop off from our decaying municipal body the parasitical limbs that fatten upon the sweat of our blood," they may, by combining the three pursuits, get ahead of the public servants who, "oblivious of their sworn duty to God and man, by crooked ways and devious paths become debtors to public virtue and honesty." It is to be hoped so, at least; but it is also to be hoped that they will at the same time learn how to express themselves in plain English, and leave balderdash to those who have less stern tasks to perform.

1874.

Though by no means illustrious in the annals of mankind, the year 1874 has been sufficiently marked to be forever distinctly memorable. While neither an epoch nor an era, the studious reader of history in the remote future may be safely supposed able without difficulty to associate the period with issues and developments of universal and permanent interest. In the annals of the American Republic the year will always be remembered as a time of financial crisis and depression. Old business men at present speak of it as the worst year they have ever known; some declare it the worst financial year in the entire history of the country, and with needful commentary, the saying may be accepted as true. In consequence of the enormous advancement of the nation in population, industry and wealth, arrest or disturbance of regular, prosperous movement in the vast organism was necessarily followed by effects more striking and embarrassing than any ever before experienced in the country. Hence the year may stand in our national history as the period within which certain methods or processes of financial management, suggested by the conditions or instigated by the necessities of the nation, developed their proper evil effects, culminating in a crisis which may have been foreseen for years, but which, human nature being what it is, could not have been prevented. Though a calamitous disturbance, it has not been a catastrophe, and as the crisis has certainly been the subject of earnest inquiry and reflection on the part of the people, we may hope that the year just past may stand in our history as the beginning of a new era in the financial economy of the country. We do not, however, profess to be prophets.

Glancing back over the year 1874, one cannot help recalling the so styled crusade movement in Ohio and other Western States. Though the movement may not be deemed worthy of mention in a general history to be written five hundred years hence, we do not feel sure of its being passed over in silence by the historian of the United States at that future date. Scorn is now the portion of those writers who, compiling the history of England in the eighteenth century, omitted to record the rise of Wesleyan Methodism. Certainly our Western crusades are not to be compared with Wesleyan Methodism in practical importance, but they were very remarkable phenomena. As social symptoms, as traits in the development of manners, they were unquestionably the most significant and noteworthy indications of the year in which they originated, and as such they at once attracted attention and called forth comment in the press of all civilized nations. In England, France, Italy, Germany, people read at first with incredulity and then with amazement of the strange doings of the new crusaders, and with still greater amazement they read of the toleration and indulgence with which the crusaders were treated by the citizens of the Great Republic. Whatever may be thought of the worth or results of the movement, it is precisely one of those phenomena which, illustrating the history of manners, are especially worthy of careful record. Nor do we doubt, that, in due time, the moral or practical lesson of the movement fully understood, shall form part of the history of the fact.

In the political history of the country the year 1874 must always be memorable. The disturbances in Louisiana, Arkansas and elsewhere, however insignificant they may seem in the general recollection after a few years, must still possess real interest for all who study American history and institutions. Indeed, we may say the same of the condition of the Southern States generally; during the past year it has been such as to encourage or to disappoint the Northern observer according to his views of reconstruction. The so-called Republican overthrow of the year, in so far as it was an overthrow, was a defeat of Republicans by Republicans, one of those paroxysms of sudden disgust or indifference to which every great party is liable, but which indicates no real change in the abiding convictions of a majority of its members.

In Great Britain the unexpected defeat of the Liberal Party and the restoration of the Conservatives to power have been important events of 1874. But at present this change of administration seems to be thrown into shade by the excitement which the Gladstone pamphlet on Papal pretensions and assumptions has produced. In fact, the ex-Premier merely applied a match; the inflammable material was ready. Ever since the action of the Vatican Council, almost every Catholic country has been more or less violently agitated by the question which the Council's decree rendered vital, the question as to the right limits of civil and spiritual powers. Great Britain, through its Irish population practically interested in the subject, has not been indifferent to the question, though saying little about it. Stimulated by its discussion on the continent, especially in Germany, the English people have been thinking about it all along, and the appearance of Mr. GLADSTONE'S pamphlet at once loosened their tongues. The year 1874 will be long memorable for conflicts between the Papacy and civil governments, and for the lively interest and sympathy with which such conflicts have been watched by the world. Without exaggeration it may be said that the attempt of the Church of Rome to triumph in the ancient mediæval way over governments as well as persons has been the subject of most general and lively interest among all civilized nations during the past year. Likely enough this discussion, a hundred years hence, may seem to have been the most momentous subject that engaged public attention during the year 1874. In Italy, in Brazil, in Germany, in Austria, in France, in Switzerland, it is a directly practical question, upon the decision of which immense issues depend, and it may be so in England is, or ought to be, as much concerned as any other power in its settlement. The English people appear to be fast coming to that opinion, at any rate, and if the impression now prevalent among them should continue or increase, the results in reference to the conflict on the continent cannot but be valuable. We may add that, by the new Constitution of Switzerland, adopted in 1874, the Swiss have placed themselves squarely on the side of free thought and free conscience as against the pretensions of the Catholic hierarchy.

Spain has seen so many revolutions and civil wars, is so much predisposed to chronic troubles and semi-anarchy, one hardly knows whether to consider any Spanish event, whether *coup d'etat*, revolution or what not as of decisive and fixed moment. Certainly it would be rash thus to treat the fall of CASTELAR and the revolution which followed, but one may hope for the best.

THE DEAD OF 1874.

[illegible]mparatively few men of world-wide [illegible]reputation died during the year 1874. Perhaps among the deceased the names most familiar, however vaguely, known to all persons capable of reading are those of DAVID STRAUSS and FRANCIS GUIZOT. STRAUSS as the author of that Life of JESUS who gave rise to so many replies, and has excited so memorable an influence in different ways upon Biblical studies. He also wrote various other books, one of them being a course of lectures on the life and works of VOLTAIRE. These lectures were prepared and delivered at the request of Queen VICTORIA'S daughter the Princess ALICE, of Hesse. His last work was, "The Old Faith and the New." GUIZOT, famous as a politician, minister, etc., will be best and most favorably remembered for his books.

Another rather celebrated French writer dead during the year was JULES JANIN; a brilliant journalist and writer for the stage. AGNES STRICKLAND, author of several historical works; PROCTER, (better known as BARRY CORNWALL,) a very sweet English poet; and Madame PARENA-ROSA, the singer, are all worthy names, familiar to millions. Then CHARLES ASTOR BRISTED, a copious writer for the press on occasional topics, produced one book of real value as a contribution to the cause of education in this country; Five Years in an English University. CHARLES SUMNER will be recalled by every one among the distinguished dead of the year. To these we may add Rev. Dr. E. N. KIRK, of Boston, a most eloquent Congregational preacher, and translator of GAUSSEN on plenary inspiration of the Bible; the Rev. JOSEPH TORREY, a learned writer on church history; ex-President WALKER, of Harvard University; Rev. Dr. ELLIOTT, of Western Theological Seminary, and Bishop MORRIS, of the Methodist Church; Bishop WHITEHOUSE and Bishop LEE, of the Episcopal Church, both eminent in zeal and labors.

Judge EDMONDS of New York, though a respectable jurist, was especially well known as a spiritualist; J. EDGAR THOMSON'S name needs no comment in this part of the world. BENJAMIN R. CURTIS, of New York, was an eminent jurist. Perhaps no American who died during the year will be longer remembered or was more regretted than Prof. JEFFRIES WYMAN, the anatomist. On both sides of the Atlantic he was expected to render to science increasingly valuable services. EZRA CORNELL, founder of Cornell University, JONATHAN STURGES, a New York capitalist, and GERRIT SMITH, were each of them a noble illustration of American character, setting splendid examples of a noble use of riches, and in other ways stimulating and encouraging their fellows to live worthy lives.

THE vote in the old Twenty-third Congressional district, at the special election held last month, shows what a change has already been wrought in the public mind, since the November election. At this special election the Democrats had no regular candidate, but they gave their support to the independent candidates, NEVIN and BAILLIE. The vote at the two elections contrasts as follows:

	November.		December	
	Rep.	Dem.	Rep.	Dem.
Allegheny	4,569	3,084	1,496	1,519
Butler	4,321	2,638	1,470	978
Armstrong	2,868	2,522	1,305	668
	11,758	8,244	4,271	3,165
	11,395		2,465	
Rep. majority	1,285		2,809	

The Business Outlook.

McKillop & Sprague's Commercial Agency, in reviewing the past year and forecasting the future, feels warranted in anticipating a general improvement in business for 1875. No doubt some of our readers may suggest that such a prophecy requires small inspiration, since things mercantile have been so drooping for a year that improvement cannot well be deferred much longer. But, if we compare the December of 1874 with the same month of 1873, we shall have little difficulty in believing that the tide has turned, and the march of upward progress once more set in. In point of fact, there have been no more mercantile failures this year than were gazetted the year before, and if 1875 were credited (or charged) with the bankruptcies and financial distresses really belonging to it, the present year would have the better record of the two as regards failures among business men.

Moreover, reasonable ground for hopeful prediction is furnished by the fact that, during the past twelvemonth, our people, including the mercantile and trading classes, have been schooled in economy. Indebtedness has been largely diminished, values have been reduced, and probably $400,000,000 will fairly represent the sum that has been economised during 1874. Then the crops have been good, the rural districts are in sound condition, and both in town and country much of the demoralization foisted upon us by the war has been sloughed off. Business men are less speculative in their habits and ventures, and, like children who have been burned, they have now a wholesome dread of the fire. Hence we may calculate upon a somewhat general return of the good old methods of doing business, and a consequent re-establishment of old-fashioned confidence between all classes of the community. It would seem, therefore, that among the greetings and compliments of the season we may include with our "Happy New Year" wishings, a well founded hope of a greatly improved business outlook for 1875.

PERSONAL.

It is reported that John Bright is coming over to see us, next year.

Mr. MacGeachey, who recently left the Danbury *News* on account of a row with the publisher, is to start a rival to that paper, to be called the *Dauburian*.

Gerrit Smith's last letter was written to Professor Langston, of Howard University, Washington city, under date of December 23, 1874, inquiring whether the Civil Rights bill was likely to become a law.

Baron Rothschild is the 'bus drivers' friend. He gives them a dinner on his birthday, continuing that event two days and dividing his guests into two platoons, so as not to interfere with business.

In the financial column of the New York *Herald* of the late date appears the following advertisement: "A lady embarrassed in business desires the assistance and friendship of a gentleman of means." Pretty cool, that, even for mid-winter weather.

A Washington gossip writes: "Mrs. Grant, though not the handsomest woman in America, is perhaps one of the best managers. The fact of the President having such a wife is only another illustration of Grant's rare luck. If he knows how to fight a battle and drive a horse, she understands all about housekeeping, marketing, shopping and how to keep the buttons on the children's clothes."

Senator Schurz proposes to improve his prospective leisure in some valuable literary work; one of his projected books being a much-needed Political History of the United States; and for the execution of such work it is quite likely that he may spend his summers for a year or two in the vicinity of Boston or New York, where he will have a quick access to libraries and other sources of authentic information.

Brigham Young is getting the worst tongue-lashing that man ever got. While his recalcitrant No. 19, Ann Eliza, is traveling about the country exposing the tribulation, jealousies, bickerings and infelicities of his much married life, a betrayed follower and quondam family friend, Mrs. Stenhouse, shows up the services and arrogant pretensions to the people who live around his own door. She delivered a lecture on Brigham at Salt Lake a few evenings ago, and is about to start out on a tour of the Territories.

Another Financial Scheme.

BRADDOCK'S FIELD, December 30, 1874.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

I see your financial correspondents have resumed their annual suggestions as to the best way to reach a specie basis and supply the one thing needful. As Andy Johnson was wont to say, "My policy is the best," and fearing it might be lost sight of, I will renew it, for I see we must have money. We can get along without anything else but money. We must have it or the ship stands still, the mill won't run and the meal gets low in the tub. Well, the way to get it is simple and easy—as easy as "rolling off a log." Here it is: Let Congress pass an act authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to issue legal tender notes to be exchanged for coupons and bonds bearing gold interest, said legal tender notes redeemable in coin in like amounts and at the same time that the coupons and bonds are now redeemed. If Congress can authorize a new issue or circulation increasing the liability of the Government, I cannot see why they cannot authorize a change in the form of the present indebtedness, so as to answer the purpose of a circulating medium, when such change would answer every purpose, and only cost the addition of printing the new bills. This plan has several advantages, to-wit: It would supply just the amount of currency needed, as bondholders would only exchange when their necessities required it. The anticipating of their coupons with a circulating medium would make it desirable for them to make the exchange, and in order to receive benefit from the exchange, they would have to use them, which would necessarily stimulate enterprise and encourage improvements, and in the end it would not cost the Government any more to redeem them in coin than it does now semi-annually; and, as "Free Banker" says, they would be preferred to coin as a circulating medium. Now, Mr. Editor, I think this is the short cut home. What say you?

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[This is simply asking the Government to anticipate the payment of the interest on its debts. Such a course might possibly benefit the holders of bonds, for the moment, but it would depreciate the market value of the bonds the extent of the amount of coupons thereon paid for in advance. We see but little good in such a project.—ED. COM.]

FASHIONS FOR JANUARY.

New Year's Gifts—Tables and Toilettes—Street and Indoor Costumes—Features of Winter Fashions.

New York was never, I think, more outwardly attractive than this season. The fine weather, which extended so far into the fall as to tread close upon the steps of winter, has been succeeded by sunshine more brilliant, skies as clear, and an atmosphere just sufficiently keen to give zest to holiday preparation and holiday festivities. Year by year New York draws a larger portion of its non-resident population from different parts of the country, and even from other cities—persons who having few ties and no insurmountable obstacles to the gratification of their desires, come to share in its gayeties, and relieve the tedium of an otherwise monotonous existence.

Its variable climate of alternate frost, snow and thaw, is usually a great drawback to enjoyment, but so far we have had nothing of this sort to complain of, and all outward circumstances have been as favorable to enjoyment as heart could desire.

Socially the season can hardly be said to have begun until January 1st. All the preliminary events partake more or less of a domestic character, and lead up to the important and time-honored day of days—the celebration of the New Year.

NEW YEAR GIFTS.

Largely as Christmas has grown and increased in importance in the American mind, there are many to whom it plays quite a secondary part to the festival of the New Year. In fact, Christmas is beginning to be considered the children's festival, the New Year that of the "grown ups."

Gifts are more probably universally distributed at Christmas, but the New Year is beginning to acquire a character of its own in the distribution of cards, flowers, perfumery, and of bon-bonieres in addition to its own particular specialty of New Year's calls. Ingenuity is exhausted by the representatives of these high interests to unite original ideas with exquisite beauty and delicacy of production, and the results are charming for the eye and delicious to the palate.

Straw boxes mounted with all sorts of quaint rural devices and satin bags painted with Chinese figures, and edged with thick silk cord, which is tied loosely around the top, have taken the places of the plush, satin, and painted boxes of caramels, bon-bons, and chocolates of past years. The New Year's cards, too, are of elaborate devices, more like valentines than cards, and form dainty little fans, or are enclosed in boxes, which, when opened, reveal a series of pretty scenes through arched doors or windows.

A charming New Year's present and a very new one, is an antique drinking fountain, which by a touch spouts delicious perfumery. At the sides are doors, which also open with a touch, one revealing the picture of the giver, the other silver implements for sewing and fancy work.

Among cultivated and artistic people and their imitators all old things are just now in special demand. An old piece of china, an old scrap of lace, an antique coin, vase, cup or ornament, a little piece of carving, the tiniest article of real venitian glass, are values beyond the most elegant productions of modern times. Not that there is real affection for such things, or appreciation of their value from an esthetic point of view. It is simply a sentiment, or fashionable caprice, picked up abroad or from people who have been abroad, and which is its grandchildren's toilettes, which industriously made to order, as often as in the rare and valuable curiosities which it specially affects to adhere.

The small estimate put upon the work of noble lives, the destruction of every landmark which stands in the way of material progress, the neglect to garner up all that in the past which deserves preservation, all is, shows that the value attached to the old is of a very superficial description, not worth the mentioning except as one of the many whims of constantly changing fashions.

Flowers are a favorable gift this year, and florists complain that they cannot get enough of climbing plants and plants in pots to satisfy the demand. Baskets of flowers among intimates have quite given place to plants in pots, fern cases, trailing vies ingeniously concealed by frame and lattice work, and beautiful jardinieres. Hundreds of drawing rooms are turned into winter gardens by these appliances.

NEW YEAR'S CALLS.

The cosmopolitan character of New York society produces, of course, a diversity of opinion on the subject of exercising New Year's calls, and what one person is disinclined or finds it inconvenient to do, he is apt to think that no one else does. The war, with its deaths and breaking up of families, did much to weaken the claim of a long established and favorite custom, but it has been gradually recovering from those effects during the past few years, and the ceremonial of calling and receiving calls is now not only duly honored in New York, but is extending to other cities.

Doubtless there is a small element in our modern society to whom the beautiful old custom had little significance—a class with leisure, who meet at day and evening receptions and entertainments until they are heartily sick of each other and consider the special parade of New Year's calls wholly superfluous.

But this class is after all very small, especially the male portion of it, and mainly consists of foreigners. Americans are not yet degraded, as not to be ashamed of having nothing to do, nor so civilized as not to find some difficulty in doing it. All the rest, I believe, are especially if they have been deprived of the pleasure for a time, find at least enough enjoyment in hunting up old friends and in paying several hours' worth of time and dollars' worth of costs them. Ladies' calls, which formerly were made on the second day of the year, are now quite obsolete. The offering of stale cake, and wine, is another unconsolatary and fashionable women carefully avoid making any calls, whatever, on that day.

TABLES AND TOILETTES.

These questions are as important as ever, less because of their extent and elaboration than in consequence of the personality which attaches to them. A profuse table is not only not required, it is an evidence of bad taste, and opinions are various as to what constitute "simple" refreshments. One thing is certain, and that is that the use of wines, and especially liquors, is discouraged in the best quarters, upon this occasion, and tea, coffee, chocolate, beef tea, and lemonade recommended as substitutes. Beef tea seems an odd sort of drink to offer to perfumed and kid-gloved callers, but it is one of the things, if not the thing itself, and it is now as regularly and largely supplied by leading restaurateurs as ice cream. Another modern delicacy which may be mentioned in this connection, consists of brown bread sandwiches. (The meat, veal or ham) is simmered together for six hours in a small quantity of water until it is nearly reduced to a jelly; it then stands till it is cold when the fat and bones (if there are any) are removed, and the remainder chopped fine, seasoned and spread like butter between slices of thin brown bread, a little mustard being added, like any other sandwiches. Now it is well known that gentlemen despise ladies' "cake and wine," but they grow rapturous over well made beef tea and brown bread sandwiches.

The toilette for New Year's day is a question of time and taste, rather than money. It need not be expensive, but it should be effective. The generally subdued lights, the tone of carpets, of woodwoork, should all be studied, and, where the guests (if a group of ladies receive together) should all be studied. Said a lady, who was invited to spend New Year's day with another, "Shall you have lace curtains put up before New Year's?" "I do not know," returned the other. "Why?" "Because your rooms are dark and the toilette I have arranged requires the relief of white lace against the dark backgrounds."

Most persons have known what it was to enter a dark room in which were seated a number of stiff black figures who all looked alike, and in the semi-obscurity could not be distinguished one from another, the embarrassment, the distress, the desire to get away as quick as possible, and the unwillingness ever to find oneself in precisely these circumstances again.

Black has unfortunately become the livery of women of late years, almost as much so as it is of man. Since the impression was conveyed that black was a safer and in some respects a distinguished dress under any circumstances, black has been the only wear and the principal part and the available working part of the wardrobe of thousands of very respectable ladies, consists of a black silk and black alpaca, very good, and useful too, but not picturesque.

If black silk is worn on New Year's day, it should be trimmed with white lace, or a white fichu should be added, or some pale blue or pink ribbons in the shape of a sash and bows at the wrist.

A black gauze dress is pretty, puffed upon black silk, the puffs at the back outlined with a wide silk sash of some delicate color and raveled out deeply at the edges; circulating medium, when such change would answer every purpose, and only cost the addition of printing the new bills. This plan has several advantages, to-wit: It would supply just the amount of currency needed, as bondholders would only exchange when their necessities required it. The anticipating of their coupons with a circulating medium would make it desirable for them to make the exchange, and in order to receive benefit from the exchange, they would have to use them, which would necessarily stimulate enterprise and encourage improvements, and in the end it would not cost the Government any more to redeem them in coin than it does now semi-annually; and, as "Free Banker" says, they would be preferred to coin as a circulating medium. Now, Mr. Editor, I think this is the short cut home. What say you?

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DRY GOODS.

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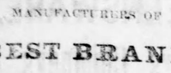

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OFFICE—NO. 13 MARKET ST., PITTSBURGH

FINANCE AND TRADE.

THURSDAY EVENING, December 31, 1874.

The year drawing to a close will be marked by the business men of the future, and referred to as we are now in the habit of looking back to '37, '42 and '57, years especially set apart from their neighbors on account of the hard times. The moral to be drawn from the lesson of the past has been so often referred to that it has grown a trite subject, and uninteresting as the old jokes revamped by Mr. Cox the other evening as specimens of American humor. So we do not propose to moralize over the past or preach the duty of the future, for we presume the world will go on about as before; in course of time business interests will revive, yet in the advance of successful men there will be the usual wrecks to mark the path of progress, the bubble speculation will be blown, bearing all the rainbow hues that mark the school boy's soap bubble shining in the sun, until it bursts, as did the railway bubble of 1873-4.

The usual number of good resolutions will be made and broken, the usual amount of champagne and rum punch will be drank, to be followed by the inevitable headache on the second morning of the new year. Saturday will be devoted to recover from the effects of Friday, Sunday to reformation, and on Monday morning the new year will really begin.

—to our report of the decision of the New York Court of Appeals on the liability of banks on raised checks, a correspondent asks us whether a similar question has ever been decided by the United States Supreme Court; also, whether a bank, having paid a raised check to an unknown or irresponsible party, from whom it could not recover the money thus improperly paid out, could charge the check to the account of the drawer and thus compel him to sustain the loss.

To the first part of the inquiry we reply that the United States Supreme Court in the case of the First National bank of Cincinnati against Espy, Heidelback & Co. decided a very similar question. In this case Neall & Meyer, depositors in the bank, made their check to the order of Mrs. E. Hart for $26 50, and delivered it to a stranger to all the parties to the transaction in controversy. This man erased the name of the payee and the amount for which it was given, and inserted the name of Espy, Heidelback & Co., bankers, and also the sum of $3,920, and passed it to E., H. & Co. in payment of bonds purchased from them. Before delivering the bonds, E., H. & Co. sent the check to the First National bank, on which it was drawn, for certification. The bank, when the check was presented, replied, "It is all right; send it through the Clearing House." The check was paid by the bank through the Clearing House, and the next day the fraud was discovered, when the bank made a demand on E., H. & Co. for the amount, as paid through a mistake.

The United States Court gave a judgment in favor of the bank, as against the firm, on trial of the case, and held:

1. That when money is paid on a raised check by mistake, neither party being in fault, the general rule is that it may be recovered back in an action for money paid.

2. But that, if either party has been guilty of negligence or carelessness by which the other has been injured, the negligent party must bear the loss.

3. That where a party to whom such a check is offered sends it to the bank on which it is drawn, for information, the law presumes that the bank knows of the drawer's signature and of the state of his account, and is responsible for what may be replied on these points.

4. That unless there is something in the circumstances in which the application is made to attract the attention of the bank officer beyond these two matters, his response that the check is good will be final, and the bank will be liable to the extent to the genuineness of the filling-in of the check as to the amount.

5. *Quære*.—Would the indorsement of the word "good," with the officer's initials, under such circumstances, make the bank liable beyond the genuineness of the signature and the possession of funds to meet the check as certified?

6. Where a check is certified for the purpose known in the law of giving it currency in the negotiation or circulation, to be used as money, and it so passed into the hands of third persons, it will be bound, though the case might be otherwise when it was only certified to enable the holder to satisfy himself that it was good for its own satisfaction in taking it.

To this it is clear that a verbal reply that a check is good, given for the information of the party about to receive it, extends only to matters of which the officer has knowledge, or is presumed to have by the law, unless he is told that further information is expected or asked for as to the validity of the check.

To the second inquiry of our correspondent, we would say that we know of no decision involving the merits of the case. Yet we strongly incline to the opinion that the courts will hold that a drawer of a check, to escape the responsibility of having his check raised, must use some other more effectual means of writing his check in ordinary ink; that he must use some of the numerous preventions to fraud, in the shape of perforating stamp or other mechanical contrivance. Otherwise it would be a very easy matter for the drawer of a check to be in collusion with some other party, who should raise the amount of his check, draw the money and decamp, leaving the bank without any recourse.

—The Chicago *Times* publishes an exhaustive review of the trade and commerce of Chicago for the year just drawing to a close. The showing is altogether exceedingly gratifying. When the depression in trade in all the eastern cities is considered, and the large falling off in difficulty of obtaining money except upon the very best securities, the strong competition for western trade in New York, Boston and Philadelphia houses have been carried on, the seventy-nine million dollars in excess of the sales for 1873, is, says the *Times*, remarkable. Another point is the large advance in the price of articles in nearly every branch of trade, and consequently the profits on merchandise are larger than last year, and them have transacted a losing business, and to-day are in debt, are the best paying men of the East. No failures of any note have occurred during the year. In grain, live stock, provisions and wool the result of the year's business is also gratifying. There has been no marked increase in the volume of trade during the year. Were the profits as liberal as might be expected, yet all the interests indicated have more than held their own. The grain warehouse capacity at the present time is 10,000,000 bushels. The banking capital of the city is $1,000,000 larger than at the close of last year.

OFFICE OF TRASK & STONE, BANKERS AND BROKERS, No. 7 NEW STREET, NEW YORK, December 29, 1874.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

DEAR SIR: The stock market has been less feverish since the first board to-day, and a slight recovery in prices has been established. The directors of the Lake Shore Railroad met to-day, and from the company's earnings for the last six months declared a dividend of $3 75 per share, payable February 1st, 1875. The transfer books will be closed on January 20th. The action of the directors seems to give general satisfaction and is considered very conservative. In fact it is very certain that the road has earned this dividend, and it is likely to do even better in the future. Pacific Mail fell off to-day in sympathy, but closed at 36⅞. The Treasury estimates for 1875 contain the item of $1,000,000 for the subsidy, and there is considerable confidence being manifested that the company will get the subsidy. Although there has not been a very material recovery in prices yet, we notice a better feeling on the street this evening, and it is quite probable that the lowest prices for several stocks have already been reached.

Money remains in good supply at 3½@4 per cent. on call.

Yours truly,

TRASK & STONE.

—The following table shows the price of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the St. Clair Banking Company, No. 16 Sixth street:

December 31, 1874.	10:30 A. M.	11:30 A. M.	12:30 P. M.	1:30 P. M.	2:30 P. M.	3:00 P. M.
Gold	112	112	112⅛	112⅛	112⅛	112⅝
U. S. 6's, 1881, coup.						
5-20's, 1862	114½					114¾
5-20's, 1864	114½					114¾
5-20's, 1865	118					118
5-20's, 1865, new	121					121⅝
5-20's, 1867, new	121⅝					121⅝
5-20's, 1868	123					123⅛
10-40's	114½					114⅝
6's of Currency	119					119
Currency 6's						
New 6 per cents	116					116
Western Union Tel.	79½	79½	79⅝	79⅝	79⅝	79⅝
Quicksilver						
Pacific Mail	37	36⅞	36⅞	36⅞		36⅞
Panama		114⅝		114⅝		
Adams Express		93		93		
Wells-Fargo Express		84		84		
American Express		63		63		
United States Exp's		90		92		
New York Central		101½		101½		101½
Erie	28⅛	28¾	28⅝	29	29	29
Michigan Central	90	90	90	90		
Michigan Southern	80½	79⅞	80⅛	80	80	
Illinois Central		100	98½		99⅜	
Cleveland & Pitts.		90½		90½		
Chicago & Northw'n	67⅛	67¾	67⅝			67⅝
Do. preferred			81			82
Rock Island	102⅝		103⅛	103⅛	103⅛	103⅛
N. Y. Fire	30					30
Do preferred						38½
Wabash	27⅝	27⅛	27⅛	27½	27⅜	27⅜
Fort Wayne			92			92½
Ohio & Mississippi		31⅜	31⅜	32		32½
Union Pacific	36½	36	37¼	37⅝	36⅝	37
Harlem		127		127½		127½
Hannibal & St. Jos.		27		27		27
Atlantic & Pacific		16⅝		16⅝		16⅝
Iron Mountain			74			
C., C. & I. C.			94	95		95
Tennessee, old					78	
Tennessee, new					78	
South Carolina, Apr.					30	
South Carolina, July					30½	

—The following is a report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

	Bid.	Asked.
Pennsylvania Central, sales	53	103⅝
Pennsylvania Central scrip	103¼	
Reading, sales	55	
United Companies of N. J.	127½	
Oil Creek, sales	60	61
Lehigh Valley	60¾	
Allegheny Valley	92	93½
Central Transportation		45
Empire Transportation	55	
Gold & St. L. mortgage bonds	75	75½
Gold 6's		112¼

GENERAL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, December 31, 1874.

The last day's trade of 1874 was somewhat more active than its immediate predecessors, but still as was to be expected, there was a rather inactive market, and trade was light. Values are unchanged in all important respects.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce, by rail since our last, are as follows:

Flour, bbls	704	Apples, bbls	166
Corn, sks	680	Wheat, sks	190
Oats, sks	2,050	Rye, sks	150
Hay, bales	225	Butter, pkgs	100
		Bacon, tcs	34

The following quotations are prices realized on wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Sales of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free in elevator.

GROCERIES.

The market continues quiet, and prices are not quotably changed. Coffees are firm, while sugars are easy. Sycamore moderately active and other lines of groceries are dull. Prices current are as follows:

Green Coffees.		*Spices.*	
Fancy	22c	Cloves, @	55 c
Choice	22c	Allspice, @	17½@18c
Prime	21c	Cassia, @	20 @21 c
Good	20 c	Nutmegs, @	1 40@1 60
Low grade	19 c	Pepper, @	27 @28 c
Roasted Coffees.		*Molasses.*	
Rio, in papers	26 c	Strictly ch'e N O	75c
Rio, in bulk	25c	Prime	70c
Java	37 c	Good	65c
Sugars.		*Syrups.*	
Standard A	10½c	Ex. white drips	75c
Standard B	10½c	Sugar drips	65c
Standard extra C	10½c	Lowergrades	45@60c
Standard granulated	10½c	*Rosins.*	
Franklin extra C	9½c	Layer, ₰ box	$3 40
American extra C	9½c	Valentin, ₰ B	11½c
New Orleans	8½@9½c	Currants	9c
Teas.		Prunes	11 @12½c
Young Hyson	50@60 00	*Starch.*	
Gunpowder	50@1 20	Common	5 c
Imperial	50@1 00	Pilot	6 c
Prime	50@1 00	Silver gloss	9½c
Oolong	50@ 80	Lowergrades	4½@6c
Fancy	1 00	*Soda.*	
Choice	1 00	Bi-carb, ₰ 10 ₰ box	6c
Sonchong	75@1 00	Sal-carb, ₰ 28 pounds	5c
Rice.		*Candles.*	
Choice Carolina	8½c	Star, full weight	10c
Patna	7½@8 c	Stearine	18c
Rangoon	7½c		

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

APPLES—Transactions are almost entirely in a jobbing way. Extra choice apples are quoted at $5 50 @ bbl; $2 00@2 25 for choice; $1 50@1 75 for common; $1 00@1 25 for inferior.

APPLE BUTTER—The market is quotable at 6@6½c per gallon for choice to fancy.

BEANS—We quote prime white navy at $1 85@2 25; medium at $1 80@1 90; fair to good $1 50@1 75. There is a large stock in first hands and the market is weak.

BUTTER—We quote at 29@32c for choice; 26@28c for medium; 22@25c for common.

BROOM-CORN—Prime yellow broomcorn is quoted at 10@12½c per pound; sales in a jobbing way are made at 8@9½ ₰ lb.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Buckwheat flour is fairly active, and in large supply at $5 00@5 25 per bbl; selling in small lots at $5 50@6 00.

CANDLES—We quote as follows: Venison—sundries 16@17c ₰ lb; whole deer 10@12c; prairie chickens, $3 50@4 00 ₰ dozen; pinnonata, $1 50@2 00 ₰ doz; quail at $2 25@2 50 ₰ doz; wild duck at $2 75@3 00; rabbits 25@30c ₰ pair; squirrels 25@30c ₰ pair; wild turkeys at $2 50@3 00 each.

HOMINY—The market rules at $4 75@5 00 ₰ bbl.

FEATHERS—Are quoted as follows: No. 1, ₰ lb, 65@70c for round lots; 75@80c in a jobbing way; No. 2, 50@55c; mixed, 35@40c.

MINCE MEAT—Is quoted at 10c ₰ lb in a jobbing way.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, FRIDAY, January 1, 1875.

The market for crude yesterday was steady and unchanged. The refined market was strong with an advancing tendency and quotations ruled nearly ½c above previous prices.

CRUDE.

We quote United at wells 23¾@23¾c; Union 22½c; immediate shipment 20c. The market was rather more active. Sales of 10,000 barrels are reported from Parkers.

REFINED.

The market for refined is strong and advancing, with material advances reported from the East. We quote at 9½@9½c for standard white on the cars.

New York—Refined is quoted at 11¾@12c for early January.

Philadelphia—Spot refined is quoted at 11¾@ 11¾c.

OIL BARRELS

are steady but unchanged. We quote at $1 35 for country; $1 20@1 25 for city.

TITUSVILLE, December 31.—The *Courier* says: The market closed with a strong feeling, but without much change. Sales:

1,500 bbls, upper road, spot	1 00
500 bbls, upper road, spot	97½c
1,000 bbls, lower road, spot	97½c
1,000 bbls, lower creek, spot	93½c
2,000 bbls, Parkers, United, at wells	25 c
1,000 bbls, Parkers, Pennsylvania, at wells	25 c
1,000 bbls, Parkers, Pennsylvania, at wells	23½c
2,500 bbls, Parkers, immediate shipment	25c
1,000 bbls, Parkers, immediate shipment	95½c

NEW YORK, December 31, closing 30.—Prices are advancing, with a confident feeling. The refined market is strong and advancing. Crude in bulk—500 bbls sold at 9 11-16c; held, closing at 9¾c. Refined in bulk—No. 1 for export—for delivery running up to the middle of January; cases 17c for shipment. Philadelphia delivery firmer; refined 11¾@12c.

PARKERS, December 31.—United 23¾c; Union 22½c. Immediate shipment 25c; they is a nominal market, not yet opened.

TITUSVILLE, December 31.—Market nominal at 24 @25.

OIL CITY, December 31.—Market nominal at 22@23c.

PETROLEUM CENTER, December 31.—Market quiet at 95c.

FRANKLIN, December 31.—Market quiet and firm; held at 90c.

TIDIOUTA, December 31.—Market firm and higher; 1,000 bbls at wells.

PHILADELPHIA, December 31.—Market quiet at 11¾@12c. Crude in barrels 9¾@ 10c; cases 10¾c; sales and future, none quoted.

Refined Oil Shipped East by A. V. R. R.

WEST PENN JUNCTION, December 28, 1874.

Shipper.	Consignee.	Gals.
Lockhart & F.	Warden, F. & Co., Phila.	104
Waring Bros.	Waring Bros, Phila.	205
Total		309

December 31, 1874.

Shipper.	Consignee.	Bbls.
Lockhart & F.	Warden, F. & Co., Phila.	618
Waring Bros.	Waring Bros, Phila.	609
Total		1,227

PITTSBURGH LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, December 31, 1874.

REMARKS.—There was a fair amount of business transacted to-day, though doubtless the volume could have been larger had not the closing holiday been so near at hand. Talk as you will, Christmas and New Year's days will be celebrated in some manner, governed by the fancy or means of the celebrators, although there will not be "closed doors" in the cattle yards to-morrow, little business will be transacted, most sellers and buyers being desirous of seeing just where they stand, and be planning life anew on the 1st day of January, 1875.

Prices were without change since our last quotations, which we reproduce, as follows:

CATTLE.

Choice, 1,400 to 1,500 lbs	$5 75@6 00
Choice, 1,000 to 1,200 lbs	5 00@5 25
Bulls	3 50@4 50

HOGS.

Best Philadelphias	$7 50@7 75
Yorkers	7 00@7 25
Good mixed	6 75@6 90

SHEEP.

Good, 90 to 100 lbs	$5 00@5 25
Choice, 80 to 90 lbs	5 50@5 75
Common	4 00@4 25

To each and all of our readers, we wish a happy New Year, and many returns of the same.

IRON MARKETS.

NEW YORK.

December 30.—Scotch pig—The arrivals are now somewhat in excess of the requirements of the trade, and prices cannot be called very firm. Eglinton is offered at $35 00, and we quote Coltness $39 00@40 00 and Glengarnock $37 00@37 50.

American pig—There is nothing new in this branch of trade. As the year draws to a close the market seems to be duller than ever, and of Gartsherrie No. 1 $29 00 is a full price. Some companies are, however, asking $27 00, and have, in one instance at least, refused an offer of $25 75 for a lot of 250 tons; the brand we did not learn. There, however, seems to be a great deal of unreselling in a quiet way, the particulars of which are difficult to obtain. Sales are reported of 100 tons No. 1 Lehigh at $23 00; 100 tons at the price for Scotch; 200 at $25 00; and 250 do No. 1 X for March delivery at $28 00.

Rails—The lot of old T noticed in our last is now reported sold at $27 00, cash. In new there is no business.

Scrap—Is without further sales.

Manufactured—Store prices are unchanged, though there seems to be a little more tone to the market.—*Shipping List.*

Cincinnati Market.

CINCINNATI, December 31.—Cotton quiet at 15¾c. Flour dull but unchanged at $4 90@5 15. Wheat dull at 96@97c. Corn dull at 58@59c. Oats steady at 60@62c. Rye steady at $1 08@1 10. Barley quiet and unchanged. Linseed on spot, 96c. Lard steady—demand fair at 12c. Butter, eggs and cheese firm and unchanged. Pork steady with a moderate demand at $19 00. Lard—demand fair and prices adv

THE
Pittsburgh Daily Commercial,
GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICE.
Now is the Time to Subscribe.

The conductors of the COMMERCIAL have for some time contemplated a Reduction in the Price of the Paper to Subscribers, where delivered by Carriers or Agents, and now announce that from and after MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1875, the terms to such will be

Fifteen Cents Per Week.

Leave your orders for the Carrier at the Counting Room of this office.

CITY MATTERS.

The Weekly Commercial,

our weekly for the current week is now out, and can be had at the counting room in wrappers ready for mailing. In addition to the forenoon and local intelligence, the monetary and commercial reports, editorials on the leading topics of the day, and the usual miscellany, it contains the first instalment of the original serial written expressly for the COMMERCIAL by Mrs. Edith Brown Nelson, and entitled "The Salt of the Earth." At the opening of the new year, and with the beginning of this highly interesting story, is the most opportune time to send in your subscriptions. The terms are (postage prepaid), one copy one year, $1 75; clubs of ten each $1 50, and in clubs of twenty and over $1 25, and a copy gratis to the getter up of the club.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 23, First National Bank, PITTSBURGH, PA., December 31, 1874.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum.	WIND. Dir.	Force.	Weath.
7 A.M.	30.58	17	92	N. W.	Light.	Cloudy
2 P.M.	30.57	24	74	N. E.	Gentle	Fair.
9 P.M.	30.79	16	66	E.	Gentle	Clear.

Mean barometer...30.78 Highest thermom.....32
Mean thermom..... 18 Lowest thermom.....16
Rainfall.....

Postal Clerks Discharged.

The three clerks on the postal car recently robbed at Altoona, of some sixty odd registered letters, an account of which was published in the COMMERCIAL, have been dismissed the service.

Pittsburgh Survey Committee.

The Survey Committee met in the Common Council chamber yesterday afternoon, Mr. Aull in the chair. The pay roll, amounting to $888 20, was approved.

A resolution of thanks was passed complimenting the retiring chairman Mr. Aull. Adjourned.

Books and Papers.

For the latest magazines and pictorial and literary papers, this office is indebted to Gildenfenney & Hess, No. 45 Fifth avenue. They are always among the first to receive new publications of all kinds, and keep a full line of pocketbooks, albums, stationery, notions, etc., and sell them on most favorable terms. They have also a very fine assortment of stereoscopes and stereoscopic views.

Killed by a Mule.

On the 24th ult. Mr. Lawson Winters, a resident of Taggart street, Second ward, Allegheny, was kicked by a mule at the stables of the Pleasant Valley Passenger Railway. The injuries were so severe that Mr. Winters died on Wednesday morning. He was thirty years of age and leaves a wife and child. The Coroner held an inquest and the jury returned a verdict in accordance with the statement given.

Burned Out and Robbed.

About twelve o'clock Wednesday night, while on his way home from the Wilkinsburg Station, Mr. G. Ruckinsnik was knocked down and robbed by some persons unknown, and at the same time the building on Penn avenue, occupied by him as a barber shop and cigar store took fire and, with its contents, was burned to the ground. A stock of goods belonging to J. J. Walker, which were stored in the same house, were also destroyed. It is supposed the fire was the work of an incendiary. The building, which was owned by a Miss Long, is said to have been insured.

Suspected Poisoning.

Coroner McCallin yesterday empannelled a jury to inquire into the cause of the death of a child named Daisy Byers, four years of age, whose parents reside on Pump alley, Second ward, Allegheny. The mother, Mrs. Byers, is a widow, and there was some suspicion that the child had been poisoned by a person outside of the family. The child died suddenly on Wednesday evening, it is stated, and was given some beer, which it is supposed contained poison. The child died suddenly at 7:30 night, in great pain. The investigation was postponed until Thursday, January 7, 1875, the contents of the stomach in the meantime to be analyzed by Prof. Wuth.

Pittsburgh Markets.

The Market Committee met in the City Clerk's office last evening, Mr. Kerr in the chair.

The pay rolls for the month, as follows.

Diamond Market	$49 00
Ninth Ward	25 00
Fifth Avenue	85 00
South	138 50

were approved.

Bills amounting in the aggregate to $234 96 were ordered to be paid.

Petition of Paul & Hacket, for an abatement on the rent of City Hall, was received and action postponed.

The matter of the collection of rent of City Hall from the Duquesne Greys was referred to the Superintendent, in conjunction with the City Attorney.

Fatal Accident.

About half-past twelve o'clock yesterday afternoon Mr. Henry Kuhn, a resident of this city, was run over by the Pacific express, near George's station, Westmoreland county, and instantly killed. It appears that the deceased was visiting some relatives in Westmoreland county, and in company with his sister was walking along the track when the lightning passenger train from the East and a freight train from the West came thundering along. It seemed only an instant to the unfortunate victims before the first discovered the man on the track until the accident occurred. Mr. Kuhn was a man of about sixty-five years of age, and resided on Scott street, in the Sixth ward. He was a saddle-tree maker by occupation, and leaves a family to mourn his untimely death. His sister who, except pauliel him, escaped unhurt but just how she was so fortunate no one connected with the trains appear to know. Deceased was the father of George H. Kuhn, Esq.

Armstrong County Teachers' Institute.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.
KITTANNING, PA., December 31, 1874.

The Teachers' Annual Institute of Armstrong county convened at the Court House in this place on Monday last and will close its session Friday noon.

The attendance has been large, there being over two hundred teachers enrolled, while the citizens have turned out almost *en masse* at the evening sessions.

County Superintendent A. D. Glenn certainly knows how to arrange for and conduct an institute, and the teachers seem to appreciate his efforts in their behalf.

Prof. F. A. Allen, of Mansfield, Tioga county, Pa., is the chief instructor, and is giving the best possible satisfaction. Besides his instruction during the day he has delivered three evening lectures.

Prof. W. A. Ogden, of Toledo, Ohio, has conducted singing, and to-night will give a musical concert in connection with Mrs. Anna Randall Diehl, the popular elocutionist.

AMOS.

Centennial.

In one year from this date the centennial buildings should be finished, in order that there may be time to properly install the goods before the opening, April 19th, 1876. Our citizens should therefore be prompt in giving some tangible proof of their interest in this matter by subscribing to the centennial stock at once. There is too much of a disposition to postpone action and to look at it as a matter of the future, when in reality there is but one short year to complete the immense buildings and have everything in proper readiness for an auspicious opening in April, 1876. We were shown to-day by Mr. B. F. Brown, the general agent for this district, samples of the large gold, gilt and bronze medals, and they are certainly very handsome. They have now four medals, which are in bronze, silver and gold gilt, and sell at one, two, three and five dollars respectively, and as mementos will certainly be much sought after by our people. The centennial stock is divided into shares of $10, each and certificate bear six per cent interest. It is confidently believed the exposition can, and will be made self sustaining, so that persons in taking centennial stock are not giving their money away but merely lending it in aid of a glorious project which commends itself to every citizen who has the love of his country at heart.

We would urge on our readers the necessity for prompt action in this matter, and hope the stock will be rapidly taken. Mr. Brown's office is No. 152 Smithfield street where full information can be obtained and stock and medals purchased.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States District Court—Judge McCandless.

In the matter of George H. Anderson, bankrupt, a rule was granted on David C. Davidson, assignee, to show cause why he should not join with Nancy Anderson, wife of said bankrupt, in the satisfaction of a certain mortgage upon the property held by John H. Johnston, and said rule was made returnable on the second of January, 1875.

United States District Attorney Reed filed an information for forfeiture against the distillery and rectifying establishment of James S. Brown & Co. of Conyngham, Luzerne county. An order was made for a writ of monition and attachment.

L. P. Lanester vs. the steamer "Veteran" No. 2, in admiralty. John Cuthbert was allowed to furnish the supplies furnished.

A final hearing was ordered in the matter of W. D. Dodge, of Warren, bankrupt, the hearing to take place before Register Woodruff, of Erie, on the 30th proximo.

District Court—Full Bench.

This court will meet on Saturday, to dispose of remnants on the argument list, and on Monday it will informally resolve itself into Common Pleas in Court 2, when some historical and oratorical speeches may be made.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Collier.

The jury in the case of the Commonwealth vs. John Matthews, charged with fornication and bastardy, honorably acquitted the defendant.

The jury is out in the case of the Commonwealth vs. James Jackson, indicted for blowing open the safe of the James Iron Company.

Wm. Little, Michael Murphy and Patrick Lally, convicted of highway robbery, were each sentenced to an imprisonment in the Western Penitentiary for a term of two years and ten months.

Joseph Herron, for entering a building with felonious intent, was sentenced one year to the Workhouse.

James Sands, for larceny, was sent to the Pennsylvania Reform School.

Court then adjourned until Saturday.

THE TAXPAYERS' UNION.

All About the Penn Avenue Bonds—Objections to a Former Resolution—It Is Rescinded—Spat Between Mr. Bole and Captain Ward.

The Executive Committee of the Taxpayers' Union met again yesterday afternoon, Mr. Finley in the chair.

Dr. Gallaher, after the reading of the minutes of the preceding meeting, moved the reconsideration of the resolution relative to testing the "liability of the city for bonds issued under the Penn avenue act."

The matter was reconsidered, and Dr. Gallaher said he hoped no movement would be made toward obtaining a decision that the Penn avenue act is unconstitutional. The bonds are to be redeemed from tax upon the property benefitted, and if such a decision was obtained, the bonds would have to be redeemed from the general city fund, and all citizens would then have to pay their share of these improvements in the East End.

SOLID "CHUNKS" OF WISDOM.

Mr. John C. Brown stated that when the resolution was offered he had objected to it, and since had examined and considered the subject fully. Mr. B. continued as follows:

To test the constitutionality of the "Penn Avenue Act" in the Courts would, if successful, inevitably result in placing the street improvement debts, or the bonds which represent the debts, as a charge on the City Treasury to be paid, ultimately, by the whole public, and would relieve the property benefitted or improved from the liens. If I may express it, the property improved is now held by the bonds. Declare the bonds a lien upon the property improved, and the city has endorsed the bonds. That is the fact. Now if the property is relieved from that lien, the city, being the endorser, will certainly have to pay the bonds, and if the city pays the bonds under such circumstances, I say the laboring or, in other words, the laboring classes, will stand the burden.

One thing is certain, that there is a manifest impropriety in this Tax Payers Union pursuing a line of action that will result in imposing this additional burden upon the mass of taxpayers not benefited by the expenditure of money realized from the sale of the bonds, and over the expenditure of which the City Councils nor the officers of the city had any control. Those benefitted appointed their own Commissioners, took charge of the improvements and conducted them as they deemed proper. They had absolute control over the expenditures and work. How often have we heard those who advocated the indorsement of these bonds by the city, and members of Council retiring the statement that the city was only asked to endorse the bonds, to loan its *credit*, but it would never be asked to pay them. The representations from the very wards from which gentlemen now present and fit which their interests lie, were the advocates of the Penn avenue act. All work is now done or progressing that can be done under the Penn avenue act. Under existing circumstances the city does not possess a lien, so to speak, upon the property improved as it would have had had the Penn avenue act never been heard of.

RAILROAD REPUDIATION REFERRED TO.

Such a policy would be as suicidal as that which marked the era of railway repudiation in this county some twenty years ago, and indeed, the circumstances have a great many resemblances which would warrant us in drawing a parallel. Twenty years ago the landed interests, held for speculation, proposed, urged, nay, *demanded* that the city and county should subscribe to the various railways then projected in and about Western Pennsylvania. We all remember, and it is a matter of record, the promises were made that the landed interests. *Then* they merely asked the endorsement of the city and county; they would *pay them* at maturity. And now, what the result of the promises. They were made but a few years lived. Now and then must be done to stop it, even if only by a "skeer." He had no doubt the city was liable for the bonds, and it would be an outrage to say that the purchasers could be "fooled" out of their money. If Captain Ward were for the real gentlemen with fine properties, generally.

At the conclusion of Captain Ward's speech, Judge Mellon proposed to strike out all reference to the "Penn avenue act."

In answer to a question by Captain Ward, he said the idea was to find out the exact debt of the city, for definite information could not be had from officials. Once they knew these bonds were not a part of the debt, and again, for some purpose they say it is.

Mr. Finley made a few remarks, and said the statement of Judge Mellon was astounding. He thought if the law is unconstitutional there no further issue of such bonds should be allowed, and no further injunctions.

Judge Mellon offered the following as a substitute:

Resolved, That the Finance Committee be instructed to proceed without delay to ascertain by the proper legal methods whether the debt of the city has not already reached the constitutional limit.

CAPTAIN WARD ATTACKED.

Mr. Bole thought a limit to the speeches should be fixed; that Captain Ward should not make six speeches to his one, and that Captain Ward should not come here and use profane language.

Captain Ward—I want the gentleman to reiterate any profane language I used.

Mr. Bole—You did use such language.

Judge Mellon—Captain, you don't know all you say.

Captain Ward was proceeding to go for Mr. Bole when he was called to order by the chair.

Captain—Well, see here now, I have the floor. I am not going to have a slap at me without giving it back to him. He will have a bigger crowd on hand than the building an engine. I have respect for the gentleman's learning and his orthodox notions, &c.

Mr. Bole—I am a taxpayer of these bonds, the truth is best. If I was sick I'd want the doctor to tell me the exact truth, even if it was that I should die.

Captain Ward—Well, that would kill you. He'd be a damned idiot to tell you that. (Laughter).

After a further spat, and some remarks from Mr. Bole in favor of letting out "the whole truth," the resolution was adopted and the meeting adjourned.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

THE lunch of the W. C. T. U. is said to be a success.

AN enjoyable evening can be spent at the Cathedral fair.

THE Pittsburgh Postoffice will be open this morning between eight and nine o'clock.

THE "bunko" dealers have all furnished bail and "skipped" from the city. Thus justice is.

DURING the year 1874, Coroner McCallin held three hundred inquests, and eleven during the month of December.

Esquire Ross is said to have a fair chance to be Chief of Police of Allegheny, under Mayor Phillips. Mr. Ed. J. Roberts is also talked confidently of as Chief.

YESTERDAY a squad of twenty-four patients from Dixmont Insane Asylum left for Erie, where arrangements have been completed for their accommodation at the new Poor House of that city.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER STUCKRATH will, it is said, contest the induction into office of Mr. Jacob Lasbell, chosen at the last election. The incumbent mentioned claims that under the new constitution he holds over.

THE office of Assistant Comptroller of the Pennsylvania Company has been created, and Mr. John E. Davidson has been promoted thereto from the position of Acting Auditor. Mr. John A. Renner has been appointed to the latter position.

THE Road Committee of Pittsburgh Councils met at the Clerk's office yesterday afternoon, Mr. Herron in the chair. The pay rolls of the First and Second Districts were approved. Engineer's estimate for grading of Isabella street was approved. A vote of thanks to the retiring chairman, Mr. Herron, was passed. Adjourned.

JACOB FETTER yesterday filed a bill in equity against Daniel Ahl, to secure the value of six acres of land, for which a deed has been given, in excess of the amount intended to be conveyed. There was a mistake in the measurement, as is alleged. Fifty-six acres having been deeded instead of fifty acres. The Court is asked to compel the defendant to pay $450 per acre for the six acres, the sum agreed upon for the land per acre.

DURING the month of December there were 218 arrests in Allegheny, which were disposed of as follows: Paid fines, fifty-three; discharged, sixty-eight; withdrawn, thirteen; committed to workhouse, forty-nine; committed to jail, twenty-six; committed for trial, five; committed to Reform School, two; entered for trial, two; escaped from the officer (this was John Carroll), one; held over, four. The receipts were $1,077. Disorderly conduct, 91; drunkenness, 57; violation of city ordinances, 45; total, 218.

ALLEGHENY CITY FINANCES.

Controller's Annual Exhibit and Annual Report.

James Brown, Esq., Controller of the city of Allegheny, makes the following prompt report of the receipts and expenditures for the month of December, 1874, just closed.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURES.	
Markets	$ 1,329 27	Salaries	$ 2,749 84
Diamond sales	75 60	Interest	19,333 00
Second ward do	25 27	Fire Department	1,775 51
Fourth ward do	10 00	Odd Fellows' Cemetery	1,673 58
Wharves and landings	232 23	Wharves and landings	1,271 82
Inspector wood and bark	102 54	Surveys	236 00
Fines and forfeitures	9,881 23	Police	3,599 01
Delinquents tax	322 50	Contingent fund	198 33
Sundry accounts	70 00	Water Works	2,856 19
Interest on Unexpended balances	421 25	Gas	229 85
Grading & paving	9,388 23	Sinking fund	18,111 85
Sewer construction	2,288 32	City property	9,067 92
Opening and widening streets	2,232 94	Grading and paving streets, sewers, &c.	7,782 63
Street permits	116 00	Board of Health	1,742 97
Sale of Fernside Water Works	100 00	Park Commissioners	100 00
New buildings	100 00	Sidewalks	931 00
Water rents per Meter	177 69	Interest on sewer bonds	9,320 00
Poor fund, No. 1	3,874 75	Special assessments	
Poor fund, No. 2	21,484 22	Interest on Park bonds	2,474 00
Dog tax	1,220 50	City bonds	1,201 25
Water taxes	1,099 21	Poor fund, No. 1	5,800 16
Business taxes	144 05	Poor fund, No. 2	23,000 00
Poor taxes	482 95	City bonds, main sewers	14,992 50
Liquor licenses	1,860 00		
Sewer taxes	867 62		
Balance in Treasury Dec. 1	74,649 85		
Receipts for Dec	61,307 62		
Total	$135,957 47		$130,881 45
Disbursements for December			5,076 02
Balance on hand January 1, 1874			$135,957 47

DEPOSITORY ACCOUNT.

Franklin Savings bank	$ 2,538 01
German Savings bank	2,538 01
	$ 5,076 02

CONTROLLER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

Controller Brown also favors us with a copy of his annual report as below, which will be of interest to the citizens of our sister city:

CITY ALLEGHENY, December 31, 1874.

To the Honorable, the Select and Common Councils of the City of Allegheny.

GENTLEMEN: In compliance with the city ordinance governing this department, I have the honor of transmitting herewith the tenth annual report of the City Controller, showing the receipts and expenditures of the city of Allegheny for the financial year, commencing January 1, 1874, and ending December 31, 1874, both inclusive; also, showing the financial condition of the city at the above date.

The balance remaining in the city treasury January 1, 1874, was.....$ 75,274 11

The total receipts from all sources, including the proceeds from sale of Water Works, Water Loan and Troy Hill Improvement bonds, were.....1,264,981 61

Total.....$1,340,255 25

The disbursements for the same period, including expenditures for Water Works, Water Loan, and addition to City Hall building and Troy Hill Improvement, were..... 1,335,179 75

Balance.....$ 5,076 02

BONDED DEBT.

The bonded debt of the city at the first day of January, 1874, was $1,388,000 classified as follows:

Municipal bonds	$ 47,000
Manchester bonds	16,000
Renewal bonds	117,000
Wharf improvement bonds	29,000
Water and extension bonds	320,000
City park bonds	180,000
Railroad compromise bonds	229,000
Sewerage bonds	212,000
Refunding sewer bonds	170,000
Troy Hill improvement bonds	29,000
	$1,388,000

The debt of the city has increased during the year for the following purposes:

Water extension	$ 70,000
Sewerage purposes	95,000
Addition to City Hall building	30,000
Troy Hill improvement	20,000
Total issued	$1,022,000
Less amount redeemed and canceled during the year	
Park bonds, first issue	$20,000
Four per cent. railroad compromise bonds	18,000
Manchester six per cent. bonds	3,500
	47,500

Total liabilities of the city.....$1,374,500

The increase in our indebtedness has been caused by the issue of bonds for the completion of the water works, sewerage purposes, the addition to City Hall building, and also for the completion of the Troy Hill road.

The receipts of the year have fallen short of the estimate $77,686 99, which is caused mainly by the large amount of unpaid taxes placed in the hands of the collector of delinquent taxes for collection. The revenues from other sources, with a few exceptions, have come up to the estimates made at the beginning of the year.

In closing this report your Controller would take occasion to congratulate Councils and the citizens on the prosperous condition and standing of the city. By comparison with other cities of similar size, Allegheny exhibits a sound financial and conservative condition, whilst her public improvements, consisting of Water Works, Fire and Market House, fire engines, and engine houses, Parks, City buildings, fine sidewalks, sewerage, &c., are far in advance of other places of much larger size, and will compare with those of any city in the land. The public works being in the main completed, there will be little occasion for a further enlargement of the bonded indebtedness of the city, and all our energies can be directed in the future to the payment of the same, as well as to the maintenance of the grounds, police, etc., was $15,218 61.

PASSED OVER A VETO.

The Mayor having vetoed the ordinance providing for the widening of Fifth avenue, the matter was next considered, and the ordinance passed over the Mayor's veto.

Adjourned.

COMMON BRANCH

In the Common branch annual reports were received from the Health, the Fire, City Property, Sinking and other committees. The expenditures of the Fire Department were $50,902 72. The loss by fire during the year was $242,200, on which there was an insurance of $135,640.

The whole number of deaths in the city was 1,537, of which 1,319 were colored persons. Of this number 779 were males and 758 females. Increase in number of deaths over last year, 262; percentage of increase, 20.36.

Resolutions of thanks to the President and the Clerk were passed.

PITTSBURGH POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Meeting of the Committee—Annual Report of Mayor's Office Business.

A meeting of the Police Committee, of Pittsburgh Councils, was held last evening, Mr. Duff in the chair.

Bills to the amount of $860 06, and the pay-roll for the month of December, amounting to $16,054 00 were approved.

Some members of the committee refused to sign the pay-roll, owing to the allowance for cover pay to the Captains at the Central Station House.

A resolution, offered by Mr. Braun, complimentary to Mr. Duff, chairman, for faithful and efficient services, was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Duff returned thanks in a brief speech.

On motion, the chairman and clerk were requested to make up the annual report of the department.

Mayor's Clerk Hartzell presented a report giving a summary of receipts and expenses of the business of the office and of the Deputy Mayors for the past eleven months.

The number of persons disposed of by the Mayor at the Central Station and by Deputy Mayors at other stations, was 9,728, classified as follows:

Cases of drunkenness	4,436
Cases of disorderly conduct	2,417
Cases of vagrancy	530
Cases of suspicious persons	256
Cases of court charges	164
Cases of estrays	25
Total	9,728
Disposed of as follows:	
Paid fines	3,816
Committed to jail	1,599
Committed to workhouse	1,675
Discharged	1,427
Sent to poor farm	5
Sent to House of Refuge	2
Held for Court	42
Escaped	2
	9,728

The cash received from all sources amounted to $9,022 29, as follows:

Mayor's office—Fines, forfeitures, &c.	$4,495 20
Commitment receipts	3,990 00
Licenses—Pawn	2,200 00
Switch	1,425 00
Dramatic	1,745 33
Bill posters	150 00
Fines—Board of Health cases	456 00
Cruelty to animals	140 00
Deputy Mayors—Joseph Irwin	1,727 75
W. H. Barker	1,000 00
Joseph Mitchell	1,464 80
J. P. Hetzel	1,194 00
Jas. Salisbury	501 30
M. Greer	1,053 28
G. W. Nichols	76 00
Total	$31,022 29
Paid City Treasurer to date	28,509 48
Paid Board of Health, fines	456 00
Paid Philadelphia Society S. P. C. A.	100 00
Paid Pittsburgh Humane Society	20 00
	$29,105 48
Due Treasurer, December	1,916 81
	$31,022 29

The report was accepted.

Action was taken upon several appointments by the Mayor, and also upon policemen's claims.

Adjourned.

BILL IN EQUITY.

Catholic Orphan Asylum Versus The Republikaner.

In the Common Pleas Court yesterday, Messrs. G. L. Fetterman and George P. Hamilton, attorneys for the German Roman Catholic St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum of Allegheny county, filed a bill in equity against the German newspaper the Pittsburgh *Republikaner*, in which complaint is made that the profits of the said paper have been diverted from the asylum, as intended by the incorporation of the company for such publication. The Rev. Wolff, President of the Orphan Asylum, prays that respondents named in the bill (viz: Directors of the publication) be required to make an account of, and a true account of the business; to pay over whatever may be due the asylum; to give an injunction be enjoined from so doing; to make hereafter annual accounts of receipts and expenditures of said paper, &c.

The respondents have been notified to make answer.

Chief Hamill Complimented.

Assistant Chief Engineer John Hamill, of the Fire Department, was made the recipient last evening of an elegant gold watch chain and seal. A number of Mr. Hamill's friends met at the office of the Fire Commissioner, and the presentation was effected by calling Mr. Joseph Lowry to the chair. To the surprise of Mr. Hamill, George W. Wilson, Esq., in a neat speech, stated the object of the assemblage by presenting Mr. Hamill with the article mentioned. "Johnny" came handsomely to the scratch and made a fitting response, thanking the donors.

Burned to Death.

Mrs. Heminger, wife of John S. Heminger, was burned so badly on Wednesday morning, that she died at five o'clock in the evening. A little child knocked a lamp from a table into the lap of the unfortunate woman and her clothes taking fire, she was fatally burned. Deceased was thirty-four years of age, and died on Center avenue, East End, where the accident occurred, and leaves three children.

Correction.

We were in error yesterday in stating that Mr. Stahlman, of the firm of Stahlman & McCoy, proprietors of the Shield's House, was formerly Mayor of Parkersburg, West Virginia. Mr. S. was, however, proprietor of the United States, the leading hotel in the city designated.

Books for New Year's Gifts.

We still have on hand
Chambers' Encyclopedia, 10 vols., half calf.
Riverside Dickens, 28 vols.
Knickerbocker Irving, 12 vols., half calf.
Bancroft's United States, 10 vols., half calf.
Thackeray, last edition, 22 vols., half calf.
Jones' Grammar of Ornament.
Taine's Pyrenees.
The Wilkie Gallery.
Rhodendron, or Life Among the Alps.
Longfellow, Tennyson, Whittier,
and many other beautiful books.
S. A. CLARKE & CO.,
115 Wood street.
MWF

The Greatest Attractions

in the way of holiday books ever offered can be bought low at Gildenfenney & Hess', No. 69 Fifth avenue.

During Holiday Week

you should call at Blair's for New Year's presents.

It Is Not Too Late

to buy one of those magnificent holiday presentation books at Gildenfenney & Hess', No. 69 Fifth avenue.

Books for New Year's Gifts.

We still have on hand a good assortment from which to select.
S. A. CLARKE & CO.'S,
115 Wood street.
MWF

When Out Shopping

drop in at Blair's, 29 Fifth avenue, for lunch. Everything first class and served in style.

Marked Down.

All goods have been marked down to suit the times, at Gildenfenney & Hess', No. 69 Fifth avenue.

Nothing Pleases So Well

for a New Year's gift, or goes so far for the money, as a good book. Large stock at
S. A. CLARKE & CO.'S,
115 Wood street.
MWF

Assorted Candies

a specialty, at K. Blair's No. 29 Fifth avenue, and No. 68 Federal street, Allegheny.

Diaries for 1875

at Gildenfenney & Hess', No. 69 Fifth avenue.

Old Fort Duquesne.

Mr. McKnight's celebrated historical novel, new edition, with new illustrations. Price reduced from $2 50 to $1 75.
S. A. CLARKE & CO.,
115 Wood street.
MWF

Juvenile Books

at Gildenfenney & Hess', No. 69 Fifth avenue.

During Holiday Week

Blair, 29 Fifth avenue, is serving his patrons with

Superb Dinners,
Excellent Suppers,
Choice Lunches.

Beautiful Chromos,

with or without frames, at W. W. Barker's, 87 Fifth avenue, new No. 125.

Juvenile Books.

Toy Books, Bibles, Photograph Albums, Gold Pens, Pocket-books, Writing Desks, Ink Stands, Games, Penknives, and lots of other goods for holiday gifts.
S. A. CLARKE & Co.,
115 Wood street.
MWF

Pen-Wipers

of all descriptions at Gildenfenney & Hess', No. 69 Fifth avenue.

ELEGANT PERFUMERY.

AND

Fancy Goods for the Holidays.

We are just in receipt of an elegant and large assortment of toilet articles and perfumery, suitable for Christmas presents, including perfume cases, cut glass cologne bottles (with any name on desired) ivory hair brushes, Gold and silver vinegarettes, Fine English Rogers ivory brushes in sets and many other articles of rare beauty and elegance will be found at McCLELLAND & McKENNAN'S, 59 Market street 67 Fifth avenue and corner Smithfield and Fifth avenue.

Also a full line of staple goods such as Lubin's extracts and soaps, Atkinson's extra White Rose, Low's toilet soaps. Fine English hair brushes and combs. Farris colognes. French plate hand mirrors.

Games of All Kinds

at Gildenfenney & Hess', No. 69 Fifth avenue.

Choice Confectionery.

fresh daily, at Blair's, 29 Fifth avenue.

W. W. Barker.

No. 125 Fifth avenue (old number 87), has the finest stock of picture frames and pictures ever exhibited in this city.

Good 4-4 Chintzes

only 12½ cents per yard at H. J. Lynch's dry goods house, No. 96 Market street.

Little Wide Awake,

a book for young children, at Gildenfenney & Hess', No. 69 Fifth avenue.

Photographic Celebrities.

61 Fifth avenue.

Go W. W. Barker's

for fine engravings, beautiful frames, elegant picture mouldings and fine works of art. No. 125 Fifth avenue (old number 87).

Personal.

If gentlemen would be fashionably dressed, they have only to patronize C. A. Mullinbrig, merchant tailor, No. 28 Fifth avenue, where all garments turned out at his establishment, according to the latest fashion, will be found faultless. He keeps the finest fabrics in the market, and has every facility for making them up to the order of his customers in the shortest notice, and treasure the most thorough satisfaction. Although his goods are fine in texture his charges are reasonable.

Pocket-Books.

Largest assortment in the city, at Gildenfenney & Hess', No. 69 Fifth avenue.

Turn Over a New Leaf.

Many of our readers have already formed a resolution to turn over a new leaf with the commencement of the new year. Many of these resolutions will undoubtedly be neglected, observed during the next twelve months. While others will be forgotten ere the ides of March. No person can tell. After resolving, it may be, there is one which no person can afford to neglect, and that is the resolution to purchase clothing from high priced dealers at war prices, but to patronize such men as our friend E. Kaufmann, of Smithfield street, who manufactures only first class clothing, and at reasonable prices.

Soul Inspiring

Fine Engravings,

suitable for New Year's gifts at W. W. Barker's, on Fifth avenue, old No. 87, new No. 125.

29 Fifth Avenue

is the whereabouts of Blair, the Delmonico of Pittsburgh. Oysters and game served in style.

Blankets, Shawls and Cloaks,

very cheap at H. J. Lynch's, No. 96 Market street.

Pictures and Frames

in every variety, at W. W. Barker's, 125 Fifth avenue (old number 87).

Choice Confectionery,

fresh daily, at Blair's, 29 Fifth avenue.

Holiday Gifts.

61 Fifth avenue.

Piesse Don't Forget.

Whatever you do, don't forget;
What we here say "please don't forget";
Whichever way the wind is inclined,
Keep cool—don't get excited at all.
If those around you *faithless* prove,
Be sure you don't forget to love.
If you are right straight onward move,
Whatever course they please to take,
If you have for them a kindly feeling,
Don't forget to say so for their sake.

Coats, pants, vests or suits complete
Procured at Randolph's store,
In Howard Block on Smithfield street
No. 87 where will be found the largest and most complete assortment ever offered in the city, which must be sold regardless of cost as Mr. Randolph is about to remove to New York.

Great Bargains

in black cashmeres, black merinos and black alpacas, at H. J. Lynch's, No. 96 Market street.

Bargains at the Hub.

Now is the time to get bargains at the Boston Clothing House, 68 Smithfield street, where the most complete assortment of stylish and serviceable garments in the city can be procured at prices far below any ever before offered hereabout. If those of our readers who have never visited this establishment would but call, we are satisfied that some of the number who were really in want of suits or garments want to look farther before buying. The goods cannot be excelled anywhere, and the prices are far below the lowest asked at similar houses.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup

is the preparation of one of the best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and has been used for thirty years with never failing success, by millions of mothers, for children. It relieves the child from pain, corrects acidity of the stomach, relieves wind colic, and, by giving rest and health to the child comforts the mother.

Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup

is particularly recommended for children. It cures Coughs, Colds, Croup, Sore Throat and Whooping Cough. Pleasant to the taste and acts like a charm. Price, 25 cents.

New Year's Gifts.

Choice works of art in great variety at W. W. Barker's, 125 Fifth avenue, old No. 87.

39 Fifth Avenue

is the whereabouts of Blair, the Delmonico of Pittsburgh. Oysters and game served in style.

Best Flours in the Market

are the Pearl Steam Mills two star, made from best Kentucky white wheat; Pittsburgh City Mills and Keystone, made from best Kentucky and Michigan white wheat, all manufactured and guaranteed by Marshall, Kennedys & Co.

N. B.—See that the firm's name is on each barrel or sack. MTuFS

ADDITIONAL MARKETS.

Baltimore Live Stock Market.

BALTIMORE, December 31.—Cattle opened firm and 2c higher, but closed dull with the advance lost; very best on sale $5 50@5 60; first quality $4 75@5 50; medium or good to fair quality $3 75@4 75. Receipts 1,700. Sales 1,500 head. Hogs—Market quiet and firm. Sales at $6 00@6 25. Receipts 4,420.

Sheep—Market firm and a fraction higher. Sales at $4 50@6 50. Receipts 1,580.

ADDITIONAL RIVER DISPATCHES.

CINCINNATI, December 31.—River 25 feet 8 inches and about stationary. Weather cloudy and cold. Arrived—Andes. Wheeling; Longworth, New Orleans. Departed—Andy Baum, Memphis.

EVANSVILLE, December 31.—Weather cloudy and cold; mercury 23 to 30. River 20 feet 6 inches on gauge. Fort Lyon—Captain L. Davis, Dick Johnson, Morning Star, Mary Houston. Up—Idlewild, Gen. Roberts, Alex Swift and Dan Hine, business light.

NASHVILLE, December 31.—River still rising, with 21 feet on the shoals. Weather clear and cold. Arrived—Abe McDonald and Smith Island. Departed—Eddyville, for Cairo.

CAIRO, December 31.—Arrived—Pat Cleburne, Evansville; Minnesota, Memphis. Departed—Utah, Memphis. River 16 feet 11 inches and rising. Weather cloudy and cold; mercury 39.

MEMPHIS, December 31.—River rising 2 inches. Weather cloudy, cold and misting rain. Departed—H. S. Turner, Sam J. Hale and Warrior and barges, for Cincinnati; John R. Maude and Mollie Moore, for New Orleans.

VICKSBURG, December 31.—Up—Paragon, Belle Peck, John A. Wood and barges. No boats down. River rose 4 inches.

NEW ORLEANS, December 31.—Arrived—Robt. Mitchell, Fannie Tatum, Cincinnati. Departed—Belle of Shreveport, St. Louis. The Belle Lee arrived from Memphis at 5 P. M. to-day with a cargo of five thousand nine hundred and eight bales of cotton, the largest cargo that has arrived since the war; she also had two barges in tow, with seven hundred and sixty-two bales of cotton on one and seven thousand six hundred sacks of cotton seed on the other. Weather cloudy and pleasant.

EDUCATIONAL.

Proceedings of the Washington County Teachers' Institute.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.
CANONSBURG, PA., December 31, 1874, 2 P. M.

The choir from the South Western Normal School furnished some admirable music, leading the teachers in singing "Sweet bye and bye," and by request, "The Old Apple Tree."

Deputy Superintendent Houck stated that the convention of school directors, which had been in session since one o'clock in this place, would, with the consent of the institute, hold a joint session. This was agreed to, and the discussion of compulsory attendance, which the Directors had been considering, was continued.

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE.

Mr. Bayley, of Millsboro, wished to know if the State had not a right to give every child of school age a share of the advantages arising from the million of dollars appropriated for school purposes.

Mr. J. C. McNary, a director from Chartiers district, made a very warm speech in opposition to the working of the school law. He was in favor of most radical changes. We had gone back in the last twenty years. Compulsory education is a principle, and when a man is a principle he is principle.

Rev. Mr. Arthur said all laws are in their nature compulsory. If there is no penalty, what is the use of the law.

Prof. Hill, of Curry Institute, thought if we are going back